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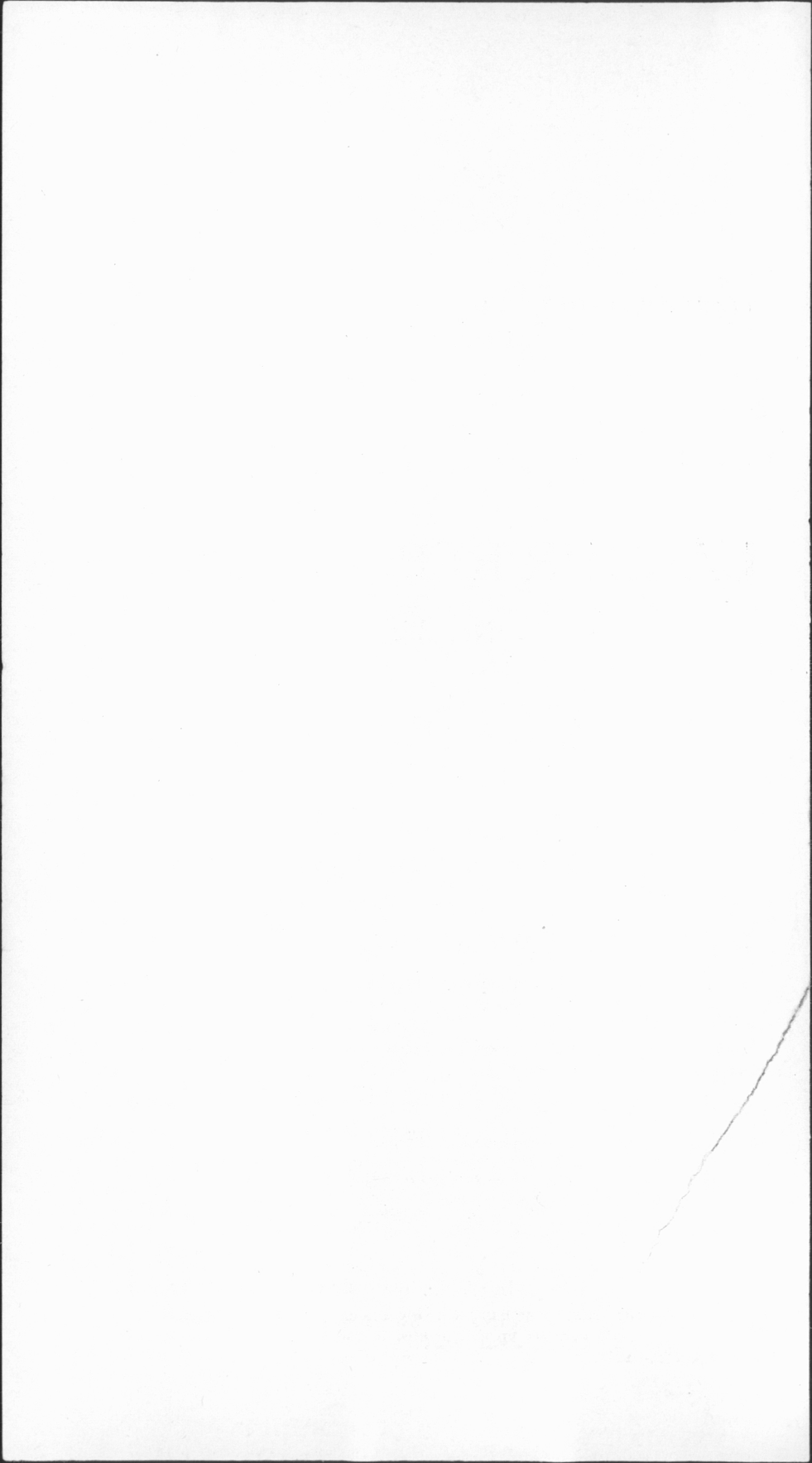
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PREFACE.

The first Labour Report issued by this Bureau was published in 1912. This Report is the thirty-fourth of the series and deals chiefly with 1944 and previous years. Some of the tabulations, however, include particulars relating to 1945.

The Report follows the lines of its immediate predecessors in scope and arrangement. The subject-matter has been divided into five Chapters, viz., Retail Prices and Price Indexes; Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes; Wages; Employment and Unemployment (including Industrial Disputes), and Associations (Labour Organizations). The index at the end of the volume will considerably facilitate reference.

In Chapter IV. brief reference is made in Section 3 to the Commonwealth Employment Service and in Section 5 to the Commonwealth Unemployment and Sickness Benefits.

In tabulating the results of investigations as to rates of wage, labour organizations, unemployment, industrial disputes, &c., the following grouping has been adopted in this Report :—

Groups of Industries and Occupations.

I.	Wood, Furniture, Sawmill, Timber-works, &c.	VIII.	Mining, Quarries, &c.
II.	Engineering, Metal Works, &c.	IX.	Railway and Tramway Services.
III.	Food, Drink, and Tobacco—Manufacture and Distribution.	X.	Other Land Transport.
IV.	Clothing, Textiles, &c.	XI.	Shipping, Wharf Labour, &c.
V.	Books, Printing, Bookbinding, &c.	XII.	Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, Horticultural, &c.
VI.	Other Manufacturing.	XIII.	Domestic, Hotels, &c.
VII.	Building.	XIV.	Miscellaneous.

Secretaries of trade unions and of employers' associations, officials of Commonwealth and State Departments, private employers, retail traders, house agents, and others have readily supplied much information specially for the purposes of this Report, and my thanks are tendered to all who have thus assisted.

Grateful acknowledgment is also made of the continued assistance given by the Statistical Offices in the various States, especially in regard to the collection of retail prices.

Special acknowledgment is made to Mr. H. G. Downing, the officer in charge of Labour Statistics in this Bureau, and to the staff under his control, for the care and attention given to the compilation of this Report.

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Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,
Canberra, A.C.T., June, 1946.

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CHAPTER I.—RETAIL PRICES AND PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS.

§ 1. Collection of Information as to Retail Prices.

The retail prices of the extensive range of commodities and services in common demand (commonly referred to as the "regimen") used in compiling the All Items ("C" series) retail price index (see list on pages 10-12 hereof) have been ascertained at frequent and regular intervals since 1923 for each of the six capital cities and for 27 of the more important towns of Australia. Comparable information is available for the month of November in each year 1914 to 1922 for each of the six capital cities.

The prices of food and groceries in approximately 200 towns throughout Australia were collected as at November of each year from 1913 to 1942 when collection was temporarily suspended as a war-time economy.

Retail prices of food and groceries and average rentals of houses for earlier years extending back to 1901 were collected by this Bureau, and in some cases have been recorded by the Statisticians of various States as far back as 1864.

The methods by which prices used in the "C" series retail price index-numbers are ascertained and the measures adopted to ensure their accuracy and comparability are briefly as follows:—

- (i) Representative and reputable retailers are selected for each city and town covered by the collection and each is required to furnish a return of prices monthly in respect of food and groceries and quarterly in respect of other items. Prices for each item are obtained where practicable from about ten retailers in each of the capital cities, and from about five retailers in each of the provincial towns.
- (ii) These returns are collected under authority of the *Census and Statistics Act 1905-1938* which requires that returns be supplied accurately and promptly and ensures that particulars supplied by individual retailers will not be divulged to competitors or to any other person or Government authority. Penalties are provided against failure to supply returns, against supplying false information, and against failure to answer truthfully any question asked by an authorized officer in respect of the contents of the return.
- (iii) The actual collection of returns is carried out by qualified Field Officers of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics working under the supervision of the Statisticians of the respective States. These Field Officers have very wide powers of investigation, including entry of premises and inspection of goods, records, etc.
- (iv) The Field Officers not only receive and check returns but visit the retail shops concerned, whenever necessary, to verify returns. In respect of articles of clothing and the like where variation of quality may be considerable Field Officers are equipped with samples of the goods used for price comparisons. In such cases the Field Officers visit every retail informant at each quarterly collection and personally inspect the relevant goods and prices thereof.

- (v) Before each quarterly collection Supervising Field Officers review the whole of the items for which prices are collected after making extensive inquiries among manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers. These Supervising Field Officers periodically accompany Field Officers at their price collections and check their work. This not only ensures accuracy and assiduity but also that all Field Officers work on uniform lines and that, as far as care and effort can make it possible, prices for identical goods and quality will be recorded at all times and for all places.
- (vi) The list of items in the regimen and the standards thereof are revised from time to time to keep them in harmony with changing conditions. Where such changes become necessary suitable adjustment is made in computing the retail price index to ensure that it reflects changes in price with due precision and that it is not vitiated by the influence of other changes. (*See also* § 9 hereof).
- (vii) Returns of rents for unfurnished houses of four and five rooms are made at the middle of each quarter by a representative number (ranging up to 30) of house agents in each city and town, for brick and wooden houses respectively, classified according to number of rooms. These returns show the weekly rental of a substantial number of individual houses each of which is selected by the Field Officer as suitable for inclusion in a sample designed to measure the quarterly ratio of change in weekly rentals. The aim is to measure variations which may be equivalent to change in price for a constant standard. The ratio of change is used to vary basic average rentals derived from the Census of 1933 and other records. Although expressed in money terms, the average rentals as published are essentially indexes. As such they do not necessarily indicate the average amount of rental actually paid for all rented houses, and still less do they indicate the rental at which vacant or new houses can be rented.

§ 2. Retail Price Index-Numbers.

1. **General.**—The basic principle of a retail price index-number is relatively simple. It is to select commodities representative of the field to be covered and to combine their prices at regular intervals in accordance with their relative importance in that field. The aim is to measure the degree of change in prices for the selected field taken as a whole.

In practice the application of this principle over a term of years presents great difficulty by reason of the numerous changes which occur in the type, grade and quantities of many of the items commonly used.

A full explanation of the methods adopted and an analysis of problems involved is contained in the Appendix to Labour Report No. 9.

For convenience the group of selected items is called a "regimen", and the quantities consumed per annum of each item used in the index are called "mass units" or "weights". These terms are used herein. In compiling the index the price of each item is multiplied by its quantity "weight" and then by its appropriate population or household "weight". The sum of these products for all items at any given date represents an "aggregate expenditure". The "aggregate expenditures" for successive periods are converted into an index by denoting the aggregate of a selected or "base" period as 1000, and calculating all index-numbers to such base by the proportions which their aggregates bears to that of the base period.

2. **Essential Features.**—Apart from clear thinking, common sense and sound arithmetic, the prime essentials in compiling a retail price index are—

- (a) that prices be accurately ascertained at regular intervals for goods of constant grade and quality;
- (b) that the regimen be as representative as possible of the field to be covered;
- (c) that the weights be in approximate proportion to quantities actually used in the selected field.

3. **The Regimen.**—The regimen must be a selected regimen because it is impossible in practice to ascertain at regular intervals prices of every item of goods and services entering into household expenditure. Even in normal times there is considerable difficulty in ensuring that the selected items are always a true sample. Some items which it would be desirable to include must be excluded because comparative prices cannot be accurately ascertained for them at different times and different places. It is deemed better to limit the regimen of the index to items for which price variations can be ascertained with reasonable accuracy than to distend the regimen by including items for which price comparisons are necessarily inaccurate. Similarly, many items of small aggregate or individual importance are excluded. The regimen of the index therefore is not (as is sometimes erroneously supposed) a basic wage regimen nor yet is it a full list of component items in a standard of living. It does not imply that any particular goods or any selected grades or quantities of these goods should enter into determination of a basic or living wage. In fact the regimen used for the "C" series retail price index-number is simply a selected list of items combined in certain proportions for purpose of measuring price variations. The items are representative of the fields covered, and the proportions approximate to those in average consumption so far as can be ascertained.

The "regimen" and "weights" used in the "C" series retail price index-numbers are published in full on pages 10 to 12.

4. **Purpose of Retail Price Index-Numbers.**—The retail price indexes are designed to measure the extent of changes in price levels only. While they may be used as indicating proportionate variations in cost of a *constant* standard of living, they do not measure the absolute cost of any standard of living, nor the cost of changes in the standard of living. In other words, they measure as nearly as may be the proportionate change in the aggregate cost of specified quantities of the selected "regimen" of items included in the index. The regimen is representative of a high proportion of the expenditure of wage-earner households.

5. **Effects of War Conditions on Index.**—Under war-time conditions scarcity of certain types of goods, erratic supply and changes of grade due to standardization created unusual difficulty in obtaining the data necessary for measuring variations in prices and this difficulty still obtains. In some instances, this has rendered it necessary to substitute new grades, qualities or types of articles for those formerly used as indicators of changes in price. This has been the case more particularly in the clothing, household drapery and household utensils sections of the index. Substitutions of similar kind were necessary at times under normal conditions in order to meet changes of fashion and usage. In themselves, such substitutions are not injurious to the index provided the transitional difficulties can be solved as they arise. No change in principle is involved. The index continues to measure, as accurately

as may be, price variations, and price variations only. Just as in the pre-war period, application of multipliers (called "grafting factors") serves to neutralize those differences in prices which are solely due to substitution of a new item for one which has ceased to be available or in common use. The net effect of this process is that the price of the old item is taken as typical of price variation in its class up to the time of substitution, and the prices of the new item as typical of such changes in price thereafter.

In normal times, popular usage of items in general consumption changes slowly and the weight of items and groups in the regimen is changed only at long intervals. In war-time scarcity of supplies of some goods, rationing and kindred factors actually produce substantial changes in usage both long term and short term. The weights of the retail price indexes have not been changed and continue as in pre-war years. (See § 9 (2) hereof.)

The "C" series retail price index, as published, measures the aggregate variation in prices of the regimen of items adopted in peace times in peacetime proportion. This ensures comparability of the index on that specific basis. Its practical significance under war conditions is limited because a single index cannot take into account all changes that occur.

If it were practicable, it would be desirable to compile an additional index to measure variations over the war period, having regard to the fact that the relative consumptions of some items of the regimen have been altered by war conditions, and that the prices of some items not included in the regimen have moved differently from the variations recorded by the "C" series index. This would provide an alternative method of comparison presenting another aspect of price movement in war-time.

§ 3. Various Series of Retail Price Index-Numbers.

Two main series of retail price index-numbers are compiled and shown in some detail in the following pages, viz. :—

- (i) the "B" series relating only to food, groceries and housing, continuously available since 1907 ;
- (ii) the All Items ("C" series) relating to food, groceries, housing, clothing, household drapery and utensils, fuel and light, and other miscellaneous items of household expenditure, continuously available from 1914.

The "B" series comprises only the food, groceries and housing sections of the All Items ("C" series) index. Reference is made on pages 35 to 37 of this Report to the "A" series and the "D" series (no longer compiled), the "Court" series and various other series of retail price index-numbers.

Although considerable space is given herein to the "B" series index-numbers (see page 26), reference to them should be made only in respect of the movement in prices in the three sections (food, groceries and rent) which they embrace.

Subject to consideration of special war-time influences, the "C" series in total provides a reliable measure of aggregate variations in retail prices (as well as of group indexes for component sections) of a high percentage of goods and services used in wage-earner households. This index is compiled for :—

- (a) the capital city of each of the six States,
- (b) four other principal towns in each of the six States,
- (c) weighted average of five towns (including capital city) in each of the six States,

- (d) weighted average for the Six Capital Cities combined,
- (e) weighted average for the Thirty Towns (including capital cities),
- (f) separate indexes for Warwick, Port Augusta and Canberra.

This index forms the basis of the "Court" series index used by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for the "cost of living" adjustments of wages prescribed by awards made by the Court. (See §§ 10 and 11 of this Chapter.)

§ 4. Retail Price Levels 1914-1945.

The aggregate indexes for 1914, 1921 and 1939 to 1944 for the Thirty Towns are published in summary form on page 21 hereof, while the following table furnishes the relevant index-numbers for the Six Capital Cities as a whole, for certain significant dates since November, 1914—the earliest date for which this index is available.

ALL ITEMS ("C" SERIES) RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS. WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX CAPITAL CITIES.

(Base : 1923-27 = 1,000.)

1914, November	.. ..	687	(Beginning of War I.)
1918, November	.. ..	905	(End of War I.)
1920, November	.. ..	1,166	(Post-War peak)
1922, November	.. ..	975	(Post-War trough)
1929, Year	.. ..	1,033	(Pre-Depression peak)
1933, Year	.. ..	804	(Depression trough)
1939, September Quarter	.. ..	916	(Pre-War II.)
1943, March Quarter	.. ..	1,123	(Pre-Price Stabilization)
1943, June Quarter	.. ..	1,143	(War II. peak)
1944, March Quarter	.. ..	1,124	
1945, March Quarter	.. ..	1,123	
1945, December Quarter	.. ..	1,129	

These indexes reveal a rise of approximately 32 per cent. during the first world war, followed by a further rise of 29 per cent. in the two post-war years (November, 1918, to November, 1920). From November, 1920 to November, 1922, there was a fall of 16 per cent., and the index remained relatively stable until the onset of the depression in 1929. During the four years of the depression 1929 to 1933 the index fell by 22 per cent., rising thereafter steadily until 1939 when it was nearly 14 per cent. above the level of 1933, and approximately at the level it had occupied at the date of the Armistice of 1918. Between the outbreak of war (September, 1939) and March, 1943, the index rose by approximately 23 per cent. to a level slightly below that reached at the height of the post-war boom in 1920.

Price control was established by the Government immediately after the outbreak of the war under Regulations dated 28th September, 1939, and a national policy of price stabilization was applied as from 12th April, 1943, backed by more stringent price control and price subsidies. The retail price level, as measured by the index, remained relatively steady throughout the year 1944 and during the year 1945 at the level of March, 1943. This stabilized level is approximately 23 per cent. above that of 1939 and 63 per cent. above the level prevailing at the beginning of the first world war in 1914.

An account of price control measures and of price stabilization in Australia was published in the *Official Year Book of the Commonwealth* No. 35 page 455 and is also included in issue No. 36.

The movement in the various sections of the index, and in the index as a whole for each year for which it has been compiled is shown in the following table :—

The All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index and its Sectional or "Group" Index-Numbers for the Six Capital Cities combined, 1914 to 1945.

(Base of Each Section : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000) (a).

Period.	Food and Groceries.	Rent (4 and 5 Rooms). (c)	Food, Groceries and Rent (4 and 5 Rooms) "B" Series).	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	All Items ("C" Series).
1914 (b)	641	649	644	754	749	687
1915 (b)	842	659	777	792	786	782
1916 (b)	812	665	760	881	802	795
1917 (b)	836	685	782	992	882	847
1918 (b)	861	722	812	1,097	972	905
1919 (b)	1,026	768	934	1,238	1,036	1,022
1920 (b)	1,209	851	1,082	1,365	1,194	1,166
1921 (b)	950	877	924	1,246	1,010	1,013
1922 (b)	945	929	939	1,052	999	975
1923	1,009	950	988	1,045	999	1,003
1924	969	988	975	1,003	1,004	987
1925	998	1,008	1,002	991	992	997
1926	1,023	1,026	1,024	986	908	1,011
1927	1,000	1,030	1,011	975	1,008	1,002
1928	985	1,066	1,014	997	1,010	1,009
1929	1,044	1,073	1,054	996	1,007	1,033
1930	941	1,047	978	951	999	975
1931	826	901	852	853	973	873
1932	796	817	803	804	958	830
1933	751	804	768	787	950	804
1934	783	810	792	785	944	817
1935	806	839	818	783	946	832
1936	825	879	844	792	947	850
1937	851	912	872	811	960	873
1938	886	942	906	829	961	897
1939	927	965	939	841	962	920
1940	939	973	950	956	998	957
1941	947	976	956	1,118	1,060	1,008
1942	1,031	976	1,007	1,308	1,112	1,091
1943	1,037	975	1,011	1,440	1,160	1,131
1944	1,026	976	1,004	1,435	1,165	1,126
1945	1,034	975	1,009	1,420	1,161	1,126
Quarter—						
1939—March	935	959	942	832	960	919
June	925	963	938	836	961	917
September	920	967	936	836	961	916
December	927	969	941	858	967	926
1941—March	958	976	963	1,057	1,039	995
June	939	976	951	1,104	1,047	1,000
September	936	976	949	1,128	1,073	1,009
December	954	976	960	1,182	1,080	1,029
1942—March	991	977	983	1,216	1,095	1,053
June	1,025	976	1,003	1,285	1,099	1,081
September	1,055	976	1,022	1,342	1,110	1,106
December	1,051	976	1,019	1,388	1,144	1,122
1943—March	1,040	975	1,012	1,409	1,149	1,123
June	1,058	975	1,023	1,466	1,158	1,143
September	1,036	975	1,010	1,450	1,168	1,133
December	1,015	975	997	1,436	1,168	1,123
1944—March	1,020	976	1,000	1,434	1,166	1,124
June	1,026	976	1,004	1,429	1,165	1,125
September	1,036	975	1,010	1,433	1,164	1,129
December	1,022	975	1,002	1,442	1,163	1,126
1945—March	1,028	975	1,005	1,421	1,161	1,123
June	1,037	975	1,011	1,416	1,161	1,125
September	1,040	975	1,013	1,415	1,161	1,126
December	1,030	975	1,007	1,448	1,161	1,129

(a) See footnote (a) on page 9.

(b) November.

(c) See footnote (b) on page 9.

§ 5. Increases in Retail Prices over War Period.

i. Australia.—The following statement shows for the Six Capitals separately, and as a whole, the percentage increases which have taken place in retail prices over the war period, from September quarter 1939, to the December quarter 1945, inclusive. The proportionate increase in the total index for each capital city is shown in the line marked "Total". The column headed "C" series index dissects the total percentage rise to show what part of it was due to the rise in prices in each of the four main groups of items. Thus, of the 22.9 per cent. increase for Sydney 3.8 was due to food and groceries, 0.1 to house rent, 14.6 to clothing and 4.4 to miscellaneous items. The column headed "Group Index" shows the percentage increase in prices of items in each group considered as a group. Thus, for Sydney prices in the food and groceries group increased by 10.6 per cent., house rents by 0.4 per cent., prices of clothing by 73.5 per cent. and prices of miscellaneous items by 23.9 per cent. These when weighted and combined in the proportions of the "C" series index showed a rise of 22.9 per cent. For the Six Capital Cities as a whole the increase over the war period shown was 23.3 per cent.

Group.	Sydney.		Melbourne.		Brisbane.	
	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Food and groceries	3.8	10.6	4.9	13.2	4.5	12.6
House rent ..	0.1	0.4	0.4	1.7	0.2	0.9
Clothing ..	14.6	73.5	14.9	73.5	15.5	73.4
Miscellaneous ..	4.4	23.9	3.7	18.9	3.8	18.6
Total ..	22.9	22.9	23.9	23.9	24.0	24.0

Group.	Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.		Six Capitals.(a)	
	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Food and groceries	4.5	12.7	4.3	11.3	5.8	15.9	4.4	12.0
House rent ..	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.8
Clothing ..	13.9	66.4	14.3	70.2	14.5	69.8	14.7	73.2
Miscellaneous ..	4.0	18.9	3.8	19.5	3.3	16.9	4.0	20.8
Total ..	22.5	22.5	22.5	22.5	23.8	23.8	23.3	23.3

(a) Weighted average.

The foregoing comparisons refer to two points of time (i.e., the months immediately preceding the war and the closing months of 1945), at each of which special temporary factors may have influenced relative price levels. For instance, prices of certain foods (e.g., meat) fluctuate with seasonal conditions. The percentage increases shown do not, therefore, necessarily indicate the degree of increase due solely to war causes.

2. **International Comparisons.**—In the following table, comparisons are made for both the present and the last war periods of the increases which occurred in the several countries shown:—

Retail Price Index-Numbers.

(FOOD, RENT, CLOTHING, MISCELLANEOUS HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE.)

Date.	Australia.	Great Britain.	Canada.	New Zealand.	Union of South Africa.	United States of America.
(A): 1914-1919.						
	(a)				(b)	
1914 July	100	100	100	100	100(c)	100
1915 Year	114	125	97	108	103	102
1916 "	116	148	102	115	106	109
1917 "	123	180	130	125	114	128
1918 "	132	203	146	135	118	156
1919 "	149	208	155	145	126	175

(a) November.

(b) Food, Fuel, Light and Rent.

(c) Average for year 1914.

(B): 1939-1945.

1939—					(a)	
September Quarter	100	100	100	100	100	100
1940—Year(c) ..	105	119	105	104	104	100
1941—Year(c) ..	110	104	111	108	109	105
1942—Year(c) ..	119	129	116	111	118	116
1943—						
March Quarter ..	123	128	116	115(b)	127	121
June " ..	125	128	117	114(b)	125	124
September " ..	124	128	118	113(b)	126	123
December " ..	123	128	118	114(b)	127	124
Year	124	128	117	114	126	123
1944—						
March Quarter ..	123	129	118	114	128	123
June " ..	123	129	118	114	130	124
September " ..	123	130	118	114	129	126
December " ..	123	129	118	114	132	126
Year	123	129	118	114	130	125
1945—						
March Quarter ..	123	130	118	114	132	126
June " ..	123	131	118	114	133	127
September " ..	123	132	119	114	133	128
December " ..	123	131	119	114	133	128
Year	123	131	119	114	133	127

(a) Food, Rent and Miscellaneous Expenditure.

(b) Old Index as varied by New War-time Index

(Base December Quarter, 1942 = 100).

(c) Quarterly indexes appear in preceding issues.

At various stages during the 1914-19 War most of these countries introduced some measures of price control. But at an early stage in the 1939-45 War these countries introduced price control measures which became more stringent as the war progressed, culminating in a policy of price stabilization.

Immediately after the outbreak of war in September, 1939, the Commonwealth Government took steps to control prices, and, by proclamations issued from day to day, pegged prices of various commodities at those ruling on 31st August, 1939. The National Security (Prices) Regulations were proclaimed on 28th September, 1939, under the authority of the National Security Act, and established the basic principles of war-time price control, provided for the appointment of a Commonwealth Prices Commissioner and conferred upon him extensive powers to control the price of goods declared for that purpose by the Minister for Trade and Customs.

§ 6. Construction of All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index.

I. The "Regimen".—The "regimen" from which the "C" series retail price indexes are compiled consists of a list of commodities and services which commonly enter into the consumption of the average household in respect of which comparative prices can be ascertained with due precision from time to time and place to place. (See Section 2 (3.) hereof.) The regimen is divided into the following Groups and Sections:—

Group.	Section.
I. Food and Groceries ..	A.—Groceries. B.—Dairy Produce. C.—Meat.
II. Housing ..	D.—House Rent.
III. Clothing ..	E.—Clothing—Man. F.—Clothing—Woman. G.—Clothing—Boy (10½ years). H.—Clothing—Girl (7 years). J.—Clothing—Boy (3½ years).
IV. Miscellaneous ..	K.—Household Drapery. L.—Household Utensils. M.—Fuel and Light. N.—Other Miscellaneous.

The All Items "C" series index includes the whole of the foregoing Groups, but for many purposes indexes are required for individual Groups or Sections. For this reason the following indexes are regularly compiled at the intervals shown, and published in this Report and other publications issued by the Bureau:—

Group. (a)	Content.	Frequency.
I.	Food and Groceries	Monthly
II.	Housing (4 and 5 rooms)(b) .. .	Quarterly
I. and II.	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5 rooms) ("B" Series)	Quarterly
III.	Clothing	Quarterly
IV.	Miscellaneous Household Requirements ..	Quarterly
I., II., III. and IV.	Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5 rooms), Clothing and Miscellaneous ("C" Series) ..	Quarterly
I.	Food and Groceries ("200 Towns" Series) (c)	Yearly

For convenience of reference several of the indexes mentioned above have been given the "series" designation shown against them. These indexes are dealt with in turn in the following pages.

(a) "Group" or "Sectional" index-numbers in the various tables throughout this Report cannot be compared with each other in order to show the relative cost of Food and Groceries, Housing, Clothing or Miscellaneous requirements, since each "Group" or "Section" (or combination thereof) has its own Base = 1,000, viz., the weighted average cost for the Six Capital Cities as a whole during the five-yearly period 1923-1927 for that "Group" or "Section". (b) Rent.—The rent index-numbers shown in the tables in this Report measure the proportionate rise and fall in the average weekly rentals paid for houses of four and five rooms taking corresponding houses throughout. They are "price" indexes in the strict sense, i.e., they are designed to measure only the "price" element in rent fluctuations. Similarly, "average rents" where shown are indexes of "price" changes in rentals expressed in terms of pence. They are not the average of rents actually paid by all tenants of 4 and 5-roomed houses. It would be inappropriate to include the average of rents actually paid in an index designed to measure price changes only. The average of rents actually paid is ascertained periodically by Census methods—(see also page 2 hereof). (c) Compilation suspended as a war time economy after November, 1942.

The articles and services included in the various regimens now used for the purposes of the indexes referred to are shown in the following table:—

Retail Price Indexes—Regimen.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.

No.	Item.	Unit.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita.)	Cost of Items in Regimen as percentage of aggregate cost— Melbourne, Dec. Quarter, 1914. (a)
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SECTION A.—GROCERIES.

1	Bread, white flour (cash delivered) ..	2-lb. loaf ..	100	3.08	11.51
2	Flour, ordinary	2 lb. ..	25	0.58	
3	Flour, self-raising	2-lb. pkt. ..	12	0.50	
4	Tea	1-lb. pkt. ..	8	1.20	
5	Sugar, white granulated, 1A ..	1 lb. ..	100	2.22	
6	Rice, polished (Australian) ..	1 lb. ..	8	0.16	
7	Sago, seed tapioca	1 lb. ..	1	0.04	
8	Jam, plum	1½-lb. tin ..	8	0.49	
9	Golden Syrup	2-lb. tin ..	1	0.04	
10	Oats, flaked, loose	1 lb. ..	8	0.17	
11	Raisins, seeded	1-lb. pkt. ..	5	0.36	
12	Currants, loose, 2-Crown ..	1 lb. ..	2	0.12	
13	Apricots, dried, loose, 2-Crown ..	1 lb. ..	1	0.10	
14	Peaches, canned	30-oz. tin ..	3	0.22	
15	Pears, canned	30-oz. tin ..	1	0.08	
16	Salmon, in tins	1-lb. tin ..	3	0.35	
17	Potatoes, new and old	7 lb. ..	18	0.84	
18	Onions, brown	1 lb. ..	14	0.19	
19	Soap	1 lb. ..	16	0.63	
20	Kerosene, lighting, bulk ..	quart ..	4	0.14	

SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.

21	Butter, factory "choicest" ..	1 lb. ..	30	3.42	9.27
22	Cheese, ordinary, mild	1 lb. ..	4	0.36	
23	Eggs, standard, new laid ..	1 doz. ..	6	0.74	
24	Bacon, rashers, best middle ..	1 lb. ..	12	1.53	
25	Milk, condensed, sweetened ..	1 tin ..	5	0.28	
26	Milk, fresh—in sealed bottles or not bottled	quart ..	72	2.94	

SECTION C.—MEAT.

27	Beef (fresh)—				12.33
27	Sirloin (Roast) (bone in) ..	1 lb. ..	18	1.36	
28	Prime Rib (Roast) including bone ..	1 lb. ..	22	1.38	
29	Steak—Rump	1 lb. ..	11	1.29	
30	Steak—Chuck (stewing) ..	1 lb. ..	20	1.15	
31	Sausages	1 lb. ..	7	0.30	
32	Beef (corned)—				
32	Silverside	1 lb. ..	14	0.99	
33	Brisket, rolled	1 lb. ..	15	0.77	
34	Mutton (fresh)—				
34	Leg	1 lb. ..	20	1.23	
35	Forequarter	1 lb. ..	15	0.48	
36	Loin, without flap	1 lb. ..	4	0.21	
37	Chops—Loin	1 lb. ..	30	1.72	
38	Chops—Leg	1 lb. ..	10	0.61	
39	Pork (fresh)—				
39	Leg	1 lb. ..	3	0.27	
40	Loin, best end	1 lb. ..	3	0.28	
41	Chops	1 lb. ..	3	0.29	

GROUP II.—HOUSING.—SECTION D.—RENT.

42	House Accommodation(b)	week ..	52(c)	19.77
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(a) "C" Series continued on pages 14 and 15.

(b) Four and five roomed houses.

(c) Per household.

Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—continued.
GROUP III.—CLOTHING.

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita).
SECTION E.—CLOTHING—MAN.		
1	Suit, ready-made, Worsted (Australian)	0.67
2	Trousers, working, Woollen Tweed (Australian)	2.00
3	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.25
4	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian)	1.00
5	Shirt, Fashion, with two collars	1.67
6	Shirt, Working, Drill	4.00
7	..	..
8	Singlet, Wool (short sleeves)	1.00
9	Singlet, Cotton (athletic)	1.00
10	Underpants, Wool (full length)	1.00
11	Underpants, Cotton "Shorts"	1.00
12	Sox, All Wool	a (4.65)
13	..	..
14	Braces	1.33
15	Handkerchief, Cotton	6.00
16	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50
17	Pullover, All Wool	1.00
18	Shoes (for best wear), Box Calf	0.50
19	Boots, working, Box Hide	1.50

SECTION F.—CLOTHING—WOMAN.

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita).
20	Costume, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.50
21	Skirt, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.25
22	..	..
23	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian)	0.75
24	Hat, Straw	1.50
25	Frock, ready-made, Cotton	1.50
26	Frock, ready-made, Art Silk	1.50
27	Brassiere, Cotton Brocade	4.50
28	Undervest, Wool and Art Silk	1.50
29	Undervest, Art Silk	1.50
30	..	..
31	Bloomers, Art Silk	4.50
32	Princess Slip, Art Silk	1.00
33	Stockings, Art Silk	6.00
33A	..	..
34	Stockings, Lisle	3.00
35	Gloves, Fabric	2.25
36	Gloves, Nappa	0.75
37	Nightdress, Art Silk	a (2.49)
38	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50
39	..	..
40	Apron, Cotton	6.00
41	Cardigan, All Wool	0.50
42	Shoes (for best wear), Glace Kid	1.50
43	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Box Calf	1.50

SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS).

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita).
44	Suit, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.00
45	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita).
SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS)—contd.		
46	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
47	Cap, Skull, Cloth	1.50
48	..	..
49	Shirt, Sports	5.00
50	Singlet, Wool (short sleeves)	1.00
51	Singlet, Cotton (athletic)	1.00
52	Braces	1.00
53	Stockings, Golf, All Wool	4.00
54	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50
55	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
56	Shoes, Box Yearling	a (3.13)
57	..	..

SECTION H.—CLOTHING—GIRL (7 YEARS).

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita).
58	Tunic, Wool	1.00
59	..	..
60	Dress, Cotton	3.00
61	Top Coat, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
62	Hat, Wool Felt (Australian)	1.00
63	Hat, Straw	2.00
64	..	..
65	Petticoat, Art Silk	1.00
66	Singlet, Silk and Wool	0.50
67	Singlet, Art Silk	0.50
68	Bloomers, Cotton, fleecy-lined	2.00
69	Bloomers, Art Silk	2.00
70	Sox, Ankle, Cotton and Art Silk	4.00
71	Pyjamas, Winceyette	0.33
72	Pyjamas, Art Silk	0.33
73	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
74	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	0.67
75	Shoes (school), Box Yearling	1.50

SECTION J.—CLOTHING—BOY (3½ YEARS).

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita).
76	Shirt, Ranger	3.00
77	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00
78	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
79	Hat, Cloth	1.33
80	Singlet, Wool	1.00
81	Singlet, Cotton (athletic)	1.00
82	Sox, Ankle, Cotton and Art Silk	4.00
83	Pyjamas, Winceyette	2.00
84	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
85	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	1.00
86	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Tan Yearling	2.00

* The Mass Units were raised by 50 per cent. throughout this Section to restore its due proportionate "weight" in the Clothing Group of the Index as from September quarter, 1936.

(a) Mass Unit actually applicable, and includes "weight" transferred from similar article now deleted.

Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—continued.

GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per household).	No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per household).
SECTION K.—HOUSEHOLD DRAPERY.			SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS—continued.		
1	Blankets, D.B. (pair)	0.07	26	Knife, Table (stainless)	0.10
2	Blankets, S.B. (pair)	0.14	27	Spoon, Tea	0.08
3	Quilt, D.B. Marcella	0.25	28	Spoon, Dessert	0.08
4	..	..	29	Fork, Table	0.10
5	Sheets, D.B. (pair)	0.50	30	Globe, Electric Light (gas-filled)	2.00
6	Sheets, S.B. (pair)	1.00	31	Iron, Electric (full size)	0.10
7	Pillow Slip, Cotton	5.00	SECTION M.—FUEL AND LIGHT.		
8	Towel	3.00	32	Firewood (blocks) (cwt.) (b)	40
9	Table Cloth	0.20	33	Gas, cooking (units) (b)	1,518
10	Tea Towel (yard)	4.00	34	Electric lighting (units)	130
SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS.			35	Electric power (units) (b)	230
11	Cup and Saucer (Stone China)	2.00	SECTION N.—OTHER MISCELLANEOUS.		
12	Plate, Dinner (Stone China)	2.00	No.	Item.	Amount per week (per household).
13	Jug, Quart (Earthenware)	1.00	36	Union Dues	d.
14	Teapot, Brownware (2-pint)	0.25	37	Lodge Dues	(c)
15	Basin, Pudding (Enamel), 6½-inch	1.00	38	Medicine	24
16	Tumbler (8-oz.)	1.00	39	Newspapers	(c)
17	Kettle, Enamel (4-pint) a (0.37)	0.20	40	Recreation	24
18	..	..	41	Smoking	(c)
19	Saucepan, Enamel (3-pint)	0.40	42	Fares	(c)
20	Bucket, Galvanized (11-inch)	0.20	43	School requisites	4½
21	Dipper, Galvanized (2-quart)	0.20			
22	Broom, Millet	0.50			
23	Broom, Hair, complete (12-inch)	0.33			
24	Brush, Scrubbing (10-inch)	1.50			
25	Mop, Polishing, complete	0.20			

(a) Mass Unit actually applicable, and includes "weight" transferred from similar article now deleted.

(b) Standard mass-units. In certain provincial towns where gas and/or electricity are not used the mass-units differ from the standard.

(c) A definite basic amount per week is provided for each of these items, and varied in accordance with Resolution 20 of the Conference of Statisticians, 1936.

2. The Mass Units (or "Weights") and Method of Tabulation.—

(i) The "mass units" (or "weights") are multipliers representing the approximate average annual consumption *per head or per household* under normal conditions. The index numbers are computed on a "total annual expenditure" basis, i.e., the total annual expenditure from time to time by a *standard population* in respect of the selected regimen of commodities and services commonly entering into household consumption, and of a constant *standard quality*. As a first step, therefore, it is necessary to multiply the price of each item by its "weight" per head or per household as the case may be. Thus, the "weight" of bread is 100 2-lb. loaves per head; of sugar 100 lb. per head; of towels 3 per household; and of housing 52 rent-weeks per household. The result of this initial calculation is designated the "P. MU" aggregate (i.e., Prices x Mass Units).

The sum of the above "P. MU" results for each Section or Group is then multiplied by its appropriate population or household "weight" to produce the respective annual aggregate expenditures. Thus, Sections A to C (Food and Groceries) would be multiplied by the total population; Section D (Housing) by the total number of households; Sections E to J (Clothing) by the proportion of the total population applicable to each; and Sections K to N (Miscellaneous) by the total number of households.

The combination of the aggregates from the last paragraph gives the "total annual aggregate expenditure" for the whole regimen, from which the "C" Series index-number is derived by applying to 1,000 the ratio which the aggregate for any period bears to the aggregate selected as the base period of the Index. In the process of tabulation all prices are converted to pence for these final aggregates.

For tabulating purposes some of these "mass units" are varied when necessary to make up a deficiency or cancel out an excess in the aggregate resulting from a *change in the standard* of any item upon which prices are collected, to ensure that such changes shall not be wrongly recorded by the index as *variations* in prices. The "mass units" published above, however, still continue to show the correct *relative* consumption "weights" actually applicable to the commodities and services in the regimen for the *constant standards* used in the index. See also Sections 2 (3) and 6 (3) of this chapter.

(ii) The five sections into which the clothing group is divided are somewhat arbitrary, but they follow those adopted by the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage (see p. 90). The sections for men and women are now regarded as being applicable to persons aged seventeen years and upwards. The section for a boy aged ten and a half years is taken as representative of both sexes from ten to sixteen years; the section for a girl aged seven as representative of both sexes from five to nine years; and the section for the boy aged three and a half years is taken as representative of children aged four years and under.

(iii) In estimating the annual average consumption per head of food and groceries for household purposes, small adjustments in the crude average consumption were made in two ways. Consumption by factories, when the product did not go into household use in Australia, was deducted. On the other hand, the weights given to some foods, such as dried apricots and canned peaches, cover also the consumption of other similar foods. The "weight" of individual food items has not been adjusted to take account of war-time scarcities and rationing. Foods which are unavailable temporarily or intermittently are retained in the index at the latest recorded price.

(iv) Foods of some importance, such as fresh fish, and fruit and vegetables other than potatoes and onions, are not included in the regimen because comparable prices for a standard grade cannot be obtained from time to time or place to place and because of marked seasonal fluctuations in supply and consumption. The inclusion of such items, therefore, would impair the accuracy of the index. In the original regimen certain omissions were made partly on account of the difficulty of securing comparable prices.

Some cuts of meat, for example, are excluded because they are not uniformly standardized. Mutton is included and not lamb because the latter, in many places, is available only seasonally. However, the appropriate total weight for meat is distributed amongst the "cuts" included in the index. Proprietary lines of breakfast foods are excluded because they are not universally available.

(v) In the case of Food and Groceries (Group I.) the "weights" adopted are, approximately, the annual average consumption per head for household purposes of the various articles during the years 1927 to 1929. The "weights" allotted to articles of clothing and miscellaneous household requirements are based largely on the results of the inquiries of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, which reported in 1920 and 1921. After exhaustive inquiries the Commission published a "regimen" for an average working family of five persons, and set out the constituent items in its "Indicator List". This list, so far as it related to the articles in question was followed substantially in the original compilation of the All Items ("C" series) index, and has been adjusted by subsequent investigations of the Bureau to accord with changes in popular usage. The mass units used for fuel and light are based, indirectly, on the findings of the Commission. Until the September quarter of 1936 fixed amounts were used for the miscellaneous items of Section N, but since the date mentioned, provision has been made to vary the amounts periodically, in accordance with ascertained changes.

(vi) The "weights" allotted to the items have not been adjusted to take account of war-time shortages or rationing, and the index therefore measures war-time price changes in relation to a normal (or pre-war) apportionment of household expenditure. (See § 2 (5) and § 9 (2) hereof.)

3. **Relative "Aggregate Expenditure" of Items and Groups.**—In the *base period* of the index (average of the years 1923 to 1927) the relative importance of each of the four main groups, expressed as a percentage of the weighted average "aggregate expenditure" in the Six Capital Cities (from which all relative index-numbers are derived) was—Food and groceries, 38.7 per cent.; house rent, 21.3 per cent.; clothing, 23.0 per cent.; and miscellaneous, 17.0 per cent., as shown in the first column of the following table. Although the "weights" of each item in the regimen are kept virtually constant, the relative "aggregate expenditure" of the various items and groups will, of course, vary from time to time as relative prices change and, in addition, the distribution of relative expenditure as between the groups and sections is varied from time to time for "relative weighting" purposes on the basis of the changing relativities of population and households as disclosed by successive Censuses.

The percentage distribution for Melbourne in the *base period* was practically identical with that of the Six Capital Cities as a whole, and has continued to be representative of the relative movement of prices in the capital cities up to the present time. For this and other reasons, therefore, the percentage distribution of the Melbourne "aggregate expenditures"

has been published in previous issues of this Report, and these figures for the December quarter, 1944, are shown in the second column of the table for comparison with those of the *base period* of 1923-27:—

Group.	Section.	Percentage of Aggregate Expenditure.	
		1923-27. (Base). Six Capital Cities.	Dec. Qtr., 1944. Melbourne.
I. Food and Groceries	{ A Groceries .. B Dairy Produce .. C Meat ..	{ 17.44 10.28 10.94	{ 11.51 9.27 12.33
II. Housing	D House Rent— (4 and 5 rooms) .. E Man F Woman	21.26 21.26 8.69 9.12	19.77 19.77 10.66 13.17
III. Clothing	G Boy, 10½ years .. H Girl, 7 years .. J Boy, 3½ years .. K Household Drapery	{ 2.89 1.36 0.98 1.09	{ 2.06 1.59 0.79 1.91
IV. Miscellaneous ..	L Household Utensils M Fuel and Light .. N Other Miscellaneous	{ 0.49 4.92 10.54	{ 0.64 4.36 11.94
		100.00	100.00

It should be noted, however, that percentage price variations are measured from the "aggregate expenditures" of the *base period* of the index, and the percentages shown in the foregoing table for the *base period* 1923-27, therefore, are the proportionate "weights" applicable to the various groups and sections in measuring such variations in the index as a whole calculated to *this base period*, and *not* the percentage "weights" of any other period, e.g., those shown for the December quarter, 1944—which would only become of significance in the measurement of variations if the latter quarter were adopted as a *new base* for the index.

4. Base Periods of the Indexes.—The base period originally adopted by the Bureau for its retail price indexes was the year 1911. When the collection of the prices of clothing and miscellaneous items was undertaken for the purposes of the "All Items" ("C" series) index, the month of November, 1914, was adopted as the base period for this series. The desirability of computing retail price indexes to a post-war base was considered by a Conference of Statisticians in 1929, and it was resolved that from 1st January, 1930, the five years 1923-27 should be adopted as the base period. Commencing with Labour Report No. 21 for 1930, therefore, the retail price indexes have been published on this base. The aggregate to which all index-numbers are related is the weighted aggregate cost of the regimen in the Six Capital Cities during the period taken as base.

Index-numbers on the earlier bases mentioned will be found in previous issues of the Labour Report, as follows:—

(i) 1911 *Base*.—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; and food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 1 to 15.* Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; and food, groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses ("B" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 16 to 20.

(ii) 1914 *Base*.—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure (subsequently retrospectively revised to include rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses only)—

* These index-numbers appear in the Appendix to each Labour Report from Nos. 16 to 28 and also in the Quarterly Summaries of Australian Statistics up to No. 155, June, 1938.

Labour Reports Nos. 12 to 16. Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure ("C" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 17 to 20.

The conversion of these index-numbers from one base to another may be readily effected by multiplying the index-number to be converted by the appropriate factor shown in the following table:—

Group.	1911 to 1914 (a).	1914 (a) to 1911.	1911 to 1923-27.	1923-27 to 1911.	1914 (a) to 1923-27.	1923-27 to 1914 (a).
Food and Groceries ..	0.87230	1.14639	0.55929	1.78800	0.64116	1.55970
Rent (4 and 5 Rooms) ..	0.94279	1.06068	0.61161	1.63500	0.64872	1.54150
Food, Groceries and Rent ("B" Series)	0.89750	1.11420	0.57785	1.73060	0.64384	1.55320
Clothing .. ..	..	..	..	..	0.75412	1.32610
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	0.74891	1.33530
All Items ("C" Series)	..	..	..	..	0.68715	1.45530

(a) November.

The results obtained by the method above will, of course, be only approximate, but the error will not be greater than one point in the unit figure.

5. **Relative Population Weights for Towns.**—Weighted averages for any combination of towns or States may be calculated approximately by multiplying the index-numbers* of the towns or States to be included by their population weights, and dividing the sum of the products by the sum of the multipliers. The population weights used in the computations of these weighted averages for 1934 and succeeding years are as follows:—

Relative Population Weights Used for Different Towns.

New South Wales.		Victoria.		Queensland.		South Australia.		Western Australia.		Tasmania.	
Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.
Sydney ..	1235	Melbourne	992	Brisbane	300	Adelaide	313	Perth, etc.	208	Hobart	60
Newcastle	105	Ballarat ..	38	T'woomba	26	Kadina, etc.	11	Kalg'lie, etc	17	Launceston	33
Broken Hill	27	Bendigo ..	29	Rockham'n	29	Pt. Pirie	12	Northam	5	Burnie ..	4
Goulburn	15	Geelong ..	39	†Towns ille	26	Mt. Gamb'r	5	Bunbury	5	Devonport	5
Bathurst	10	W'nambool	9	†Bundaberg	11	Peterbor'gh	3	Geraldton	5	Queenst'wn	4
Total ..	1392	Total ..	1107	†Total ..	392	Total ..	344	Total ..	240	Total ..	106

† Townsville and Bundaberg were substituted for Charters Towers (7) and Warwick (7) in the "five towns" tabulation in the March Quarter of 1937.

The weights used are based on the 1933 Census results, and represent to the nearest 1,000 the actual population at that date.

The new weights given above produce results which differ only very slightly from those obtained from the weights previously in use. The latter were based upon the 1921 Census results, and were last published in Labour Report, No. 23.

* The official index-numbers are calculated by operating on the "aggregates" of the towns concerned, a procedure which may produce slightly different results from the above.

§ 7. Tabular Statements of Retail Price Index-Numbers.

i. **General.**—The results of inquiries into price movements are available in the following publications:—

(i) *Monthly.*—A mimeographed statement is published each month giving index-numbers for Food and Groceries. The *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date.

(ii) *Quarterly.*—A mimeographed statement is issued about three weeks after the end of each quarter giving the "C" series index-numbers for that quarter and immediately preceding quarters in respect of each of the 30 cities and towns originally adopted and for certain other places, e.g., Canberra, for which a "C" series index is now compiled. The *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date. This publication also contains the average prices of the items comprising the Food and Groceries regimen, for each month of the last available quarter, in the 30 towns covered by the investigation. Comparative average rents of 4 and 5 roomed houses in these towns are also shown therein.

(iii) *Annual.*—The Labour Report contains index-numbers over the past five years, and the monthly and quarterly results for the last available year. The average prices for the last year of the items of food and groceries, and average house rents, are also published in this Report. The *Official Year Book* also contains information similar to, but in less detail than that published in the Labour Report.

2. **All Items ("C" Series) Index.**—On page 6 hereof is published a table of weighted averages for the six capital cities combined, of "C" series retail price index-numbers, together with index-numbers for the four main groups of items in the "C" Series Index for each year 1914-1945.

In the pages immediately following are published:—

- (i) the "C" series index-number for the last quarter of each year 1939 to 1945 (page 18) and for the month of November, 1914-1920 (page 19), for each capital city and for the six capital cities combined, and showing also separate indexes for each of the four main groups of items;
- (ii) the "C" Series index numbers 1914, 1921, 1929 and 1938-1944 for each of the 30 towns, with the weighted averages for each State, and 30 towns and the six capital cities, together with index numbers for the same periods for three additional towns for which this index is tabulated, (page 20);
- (iii) the "C" series index numbers 1914, 1921 and 1939-1944 and for the six quarters ended 31st December, 1944, for each of the 30 towns with the weighted averages for each State, the six capital cities, and the 30 towns (page 21);
- (iv) "Group" index-numbers for each of the four main Groups of items in the "C" series index for dates and places mentioned in (iii) above (pages 22 to 25).

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers(a) : Capital Cities.

(Base of each Group: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27=1,000.)

Period.	Sydney.	Mel- bourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals. (b)
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	940	942	859	888	926	941	927
" " 1940 ..	974	961	920	903	949	972	956
" " 1941 ..	969	949	920	915	982	986	954
" " 1942 ..	1,060	1,069	977	1,027	1,048	1,082	1,051
" " 1943 ..	1,015	1,037	950	985	1,045	1,058	1,015
" " 1944 ..	1,022	1,046	959	988	1,049	1,039	1,022
" " 1945 ..	1,029	1,055	963	1,001	1,051	1,062	1,030

GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).(c)							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	1,040	960	855	891	882	930	969
" " 1940 ..	1,042	973	859	892	882	933	974
" " 1941 ..	1,044	975	860	893	884	933	976
" " 1942 ..	1,042	974	862	893	885	932	976
" " 1943 ..	1,042	974	862	893	885	931	975
" " 1944 ..	1,043	973	863	892	886	933	975
" " 1945 ..	1,043	973	863	892	886	934	975

GROUPS I. AND II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	977	947	855	887	907	935	941
" " 1940 ..	998	964	894	897	921	954	961
" " 1941 ..	996	957	895	904	942	963	960
" " 1942 ..	1,051	1,030	930	973	982	1,021	1,019
" " 1943 ..	1,023	1,010	914	947	980	1,006	997
" " 1944 ..	1,027	1,015	919	948	983	995	1,002
" " 1945 ..	1,032	1,021	922	957	984	1,010	1,007

GROUP III.—CLOTHING.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	854	862	865	869	840	867	858
" " 1940 ..	1,046	1,042	1,027	1,041	1,010	1,038	1,040
" " 1941 ..	1,179	1,186	1,186	1,182	1,169	1,184	1,182
" " 1942 ..	1,382	1,423	1,355	1,357	1,355	1,384	1,388
" " 1943 ..	1,449	1,435	1,433	1,422	1,395	1,430	1,436
" " 1944 ..	1,441	1,404	1,430	1,416	1,412	1,424	1,442
" " 1945 ..	1,459	1,445	1,446	1,433	1,423	1,447	1,448

GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	943	983	960	1,027	957	945	967
" " 1940 ..	1,004	1,021	986	1,060	995	977	1,013
" " 1941 ..	1,072	1,083	1,043	1,156	1,058	1,030	1,080
" " 1942 ..	1,140	1,144	1,109	1,209	1,127	1,095	1,144
" " 1943 ..	1,179	1,157	1,140	1,212	1,140	1,109	1,168
" " 1944 ..	1,169	1,158	1,134	1,213	1,139	1,099	1,163
" " 1945 ..	1,163	1,158	1,133	1,213	1,139	1,099	1,161

GROUPS I. TO IV.—ALL ITEMS OF HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	943	932	874	906	899	919	926
" " 1940 ..	1,008	989	938	957	953	976	986
" " 1941 ..	1,048	1,028	985	1,010	1,012	1,023	1,029
" " 1942 ..	1,138	1,136	1,055	1,100	1,090	1,113	1,122
" " 1943 ..	1,143	1,128	1,068	1,099	1,100	1,117	1,123
" " 1944 ..	1,142	1,138	1,069	1,098	1,104	1,106	1,126
" " 1945 ..	1,147	1,137	1,074	1,106	1,107	1,120	1,129

(a) See footnote (a) on page 9.

(b) Weighted average.

(c) See footnote (b) on page 9.

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers(a) : Capital Cities.
(Base of each Group : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals. (b)
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.							
Nov. 1914 ..	638	616	614	683	746	687	641
" 1915 ..	844	835	860	858	819	858	842
" 1916 ..	833	791	748	835	854	807	812
" 1917 ..	877	798	825	805	828	949	836
" 1918 ..	877	843	882	862	816	918	861
" 1919 ..	1,073	975	1,069	1,012	987	1,041	1,026
" 1920 ..	1,225	1,220	1,117	1,225	1,113	1,293	1,209

GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).(c)							
Nov. 1914 ..	758	608	463	611	586	525	649
" 1915 ..	780	611	472	574	581	571	659
" 1916 ..	791	625	467	573	592	574	665
" 1917 ..	797	657	492	606	602	586	685
" 1918 ..	832	699	526	656	619	614	722
" 1919 ..	866	744	604	707	650	746	768
" 1920 ..	980	807	634	783	718	904	851

GROUPS I. AND II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.							
Nov. 1914 ..	680	613	560	658	689	630	644
" 1915 ..	825	756	722	758	734	756	777
" 1916 ..	818	732	648	742	761	724	760
" 1917 ..	848	748	707	734	748	820	782
" 1918 ..	861	792	756	789	746	810	812
" 1919 ..	1,000	893	904	904	867	936	934
" 1920 ..	1,138	1,074	945	1,068	973	1,155	1,083

GROUP III.—CLOTHING.							
Nov. 1914 ..	755	780	657	756	698	825	754
" 1915 ..	805	797	690	821	760	833	792
" 1916 ..	903	870	779	919	849	940	881
" 1917 ..	1,009	976	899	1,049	980	1,041	992
" 1918 ..	1,102	1,103	1,025	1,066	1,135	1,200	1,097
" 1919 ..	1,237	1,213	1,192	1,303	1,277	1,344	1,238
" 1920 ..	1,323	1,422	1,274	1,384	1,359	1,430	1,365

GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.							
Nov. 1914 ..	766	728	728	770	780	699	749
" 1915 ..	798	770	756	803	822	770	786
" 1916 ..	808	784	766	832	869	780	802
" 1917 ..	889	879	836	883	926	865	882
" 1918 ..	988	950	931	988	1,035	945	972
" 1919 ..	1,059	1,016	968	1,035	1,120	1,006	1,036
" 1920 ..	1,209	1,181	1,139	1,200	1,262	1,124	1,194

GROUPS I. TO IV.—ALL ITEMS OF HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE.							
Nov. 1914 ..	712	671	611	699	707	687	687
" 1915 ..	816	768	721	780	755	776	782
" 1916 ..	836	773	698	798	800	783	795
" 1917 ..	892	823	773	832	832	879	847
" 1918 ..	938	890	848	887	885	923	905
" 1919 ..	1,065	988	981	1,018	1,005	1,042	1,022
" 1920 ..	1,193	1,172	1,054	1,164	1,111	1,213	1,166

(a) See footnote (a) on page 9. (b) Weighted average. See page 20 for corresponding figures for years 1921 to 1944. (c) See footnote (b) on page 9.

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers: Thirty Towns.

(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

State and Town.	Nov. 1914.	Year 1921.	Year 1929.	Year 1938.	Year 1939.	Year 1940.	Year 1941.	Year 1942.	Year 1943.	Year 1944.
NEW SOUTH WALES—										
Sydney ..	712	1,046	1,073	913	936	974	1,028	1,107	1,151	1,144
Newcastle ..	..	1,041	1,028	877	901	945	997	1,069	1,109	1,094
Broken Hill ..	..	975	1,018	940	955	981	1,049	1,132	1,172	1,179
Goulburn ..	..	1,033	1,108	893	916	949	1,005	1,087	1,125	1,118
Bathurst ..	..	947	979	860	883	923	974	1,050	1,091	1,088
FIVE TOWNS(a)	..	1,042	1,067	911	933	972	1,026	1,104	1,147	1,140
VICTORIA—										
Melbourne ..	671	1,003	1,017	896	924	964	1,008	1,100	1,139	1,135
Ballarat ..	..	992	957	850	874	906	950	1,037	1,084	1,083
Bendigo ..	..	1,002	969	854	875	920	963	1,054	1,096	1,101
Geelong ..	..	1,019	980	884	911	941	984	1,065	1,110	1,112
Warrnambool ..	..	1,034	960	892	918	954	998	1,078	1,126	1,129
FIVE TOWNS(a)	..	1,003	1,011	893	920	960	1,004	1,095	1,135	1,131
QUEENSLAND—										
Brisbane ..	611	923	923	852	870	908	963	1,033	1,072	1,071
Toowoomba ..	..	949	916	843	858	898	951	1,033	1,080	1,085
Rockhampton ..	..	972	904	853	867	905	959	1,032	1,073	1,074
Townsville ..	..	1,025b	939b	902	918	950	1,044	1,075	1,114	1,117
Bundaberg ..	..	994c	931c	831	847	879	938	1,015	1,057	1,057
FIVE TOWNS(a)	..	941	922	854	871	909	964	1,035	1,075	1,075
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—										
Adelaide ..	699	989	1,037	888	906	936	988	1,075	1,102	1,098
Kadina, etc. ..	..	998	943	786	810	833	882	962	998	995
Port Pirie ..	..	1,025	980	868	896	919	976	1,057	1,087	1,081
Mount Gambier ..	..	1,029	993	849	872	894	946	1,024	1,061	1,064
Peterborough ..	..	948	1,043	868	897	924	974	1,053	1,087	1,087
FIVE TOWNS(a)	..	992	1,030	883	902	931	983	1,069	1,097	1,093
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—										
Perth, etc. ..	707	1,008	1,026	882	901	932	993	1,061	1,104	1,105
Kalgoorlie, etc. ..	..	1,048	1,032	1,048	1,066	1,099	1,165	1,175	1,192	1,199
Northam ..	..	1,030	1,022	900	915	947	1,017	1,079	1,111	1,113
Bunbury ..	..	1,045	978	914	936	962	1,018	1,065	1,102	1,110
Geraldton ..	..	1,056	1,051	957	965	990	1,055	1,114	1,165	1,176
FIVE TOWNS(a)	..	1,020	1,026	897	915	946	1,008	1,070	1,112	1,113
TASMANIA—										
Hobart ..	687	1,070	1,000	887	908	945	1,001	1,078	1,117	1,105
Launceston ..	..	1,067	967	872	888	926	974	1,040	1,078	1,067
Burnie ..	..	1,003	966	865	879	917	971	1,035	1,088	1,065
Devonport ..	..	904	948	848	861	896	951	1,012	1,053	1,040
Queenstown ..	..	1,031	972	875	903	936	987	1,045	1,096	1,102
FIVE TOWNS(a)	..	1,057	986	879	898	936	989	1,060	1,101	1,089
THIRTY TOWNS(a)	..	1,013	1,026	894	917	954	1,006	1,087	1,127	1,122
SIX CAPITALS(a)	..	687	1,013	1,033	897	920	957	1,008	1,091	1,131
CANBERRA, A.C.T.	..	..	..	666	956	988	1,040	1,121	1,168	1,153
Warwick, Qld. ..	..	994	931	800	834	867	926	1,007	1,055	1,061
Port Augusta, S.A.	..	1,035	1,061	863	883	915	980	1,052	1,076	1,076

(a) Weighted average.

(b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers.
(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1933-27 = 1,000.)

NEW SOUTH WALES.**VICTORIA.**

Period.	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	712	1,041	975	1,033	947	1,042	671	992	1,002	1,019	1,034	1,003
" 1921 ..	1,046	1,041	975	1,033	947	1,042	1,003	992	1,002	1,019	1,034	1,003
Year 1939 ..	936	901	955	916	883	933	924	874	875	911	918	920
" 1940 ..	974	945	981	949	923	972	964	906	920	941	954	960
" 1941 ..	1,028	967	1,049	1,005	974	1,036	1,008	950	963	984	988	1,004
" 1942 ..	1,107	1,060	1,132	1,087	1,050	1,104	1,100	1,037	1,054	1,065	1,078	1,095
" 1943 ..	1,151	1,109	1,172	1,125	1,091	1,147	1,139	1,084	1,096	1,110	1,126	1,135
" 1944 ..	1,144	1,094	1,179	1,118	1,088	1,140	1,135	1,083	1,101	1,112	1,129	1,131
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,154	1,112	1,179	1,126	1,096	1,151	1,139	1,087	1,097	1,117	1,128	1,136
" Dec. "	1,143	1,098	1,175	1,116	1,082	1,139	1,128	1,075	1,094	1,100	1,115	1,125
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,145	1,097	1,175	1,118	1,085	1,139	1,139	1,074	1,095	1,103	1,115	1,125
" June "	1,143	1,089	1,174	1,119	1,086	1,139	1,133	1,082	1,101	1,112	1,122	1,139
" Sept. "	1,146	1,083	1,184	1,119	1,090	1,142	1,140	1,087	1,104	1,118	1,138	1,136
" Dec. "	1,142	1,095	1,184	1,116	1,089	1,138	1,138	1,087	1,102	1,116	1,140	1,134

QUEENSLAND.**SOUTH AUSTRALIA.**

Period.	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambler.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	611	919	972	1,025 1/2	994 1/2	941	699	998	1,025	1,039	948	993
" 1921 ..	923	949	972	1,025 1/2	994 1/2	941	699	998	1,025	1,039	948	993
Year 1939 ..	870	838	867	918	847	871	906	810	866	872	807	902
" 1940 ..	908	859	881	950	879	904	936	833	910	846	924	931
" 1941 ..	963	931	959	1,004	938	964	988	882	976	915	974	983
" 1942 ..	1,033	1,032	1,032	1,075	1,015	1,035	1,075	962	1,057	1,043	1,033	1,069
" 1943 ..	1,072	1,080	1,073	1,114	1,057	1,075	1,102	998	1,087	1,064	1,087	1,097
" 1944 ..	1,071	1,085	1,074	1,117	1,057	1,075	1,098	995	1,081	1,064	1,087	1,093
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,074	1,078	1,074	1,114	1,058	1,076	1,106	1,004	1,091	1,067	1,090	1,101
" Dec. "	1,068	1,083	1,073	1,113	1,053	1,072	1,099	998	1,081	1,056	1,083	1,094
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,072	1,087	1,075	1,116	1,056	1,075	1,098	996	1,081	1,057	1,083	1,093
" June "	1,072	1,087	1,076	1,119	1,060	1,076	1,096	992	1,077	1,057	1,082	1,091
" Sept. "	1,071	1,084	1,074	1,117	1,057	1,073	1,101	995	1,084	1,071	1,095	1,096
" Dec. "	1,069	1,084	1,071	1,116	1,056	1,075	1,098	996	1,080	1,070	1,080	1,093

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.**TASMANIA.**

Period.	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.	Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
Nov. 1914 (a)	707	1,048	1,030	1,045	1,056	1,020	687	1,070	1,067	1,003	904	1,031	687	1,013
" 1921 ..	1,008	1,048	1,030	1,045	1,056	1,020	687	1,070	1,067	1,003	904	1,031	687	1,013
Year 1939 ..	901	1,066	915	936	965	915	908	888	879	861	903	898	917	917
" 1940 ..	932	1,099	947	962	990	946	945	926	917	896	936	936	957	954
" 1941 ..	993	1,163	1,017	1,018	1,055	1,068	1,001	971	951	987	986	1,008	1,006	1,008
" 1942 ..	1,061	1,172	1,079	1,065	1,114	1,070	1,078	1,040	1,033	1,012	1,045	1,060	1,091	1,087
" 1943 ..	1,104	1,192	1,102	1,102	1,115	1,112	1,117	1,078	1,088	1,058	1,096	1,101	1,131	1,127
" 1944 ..	1,105	1,199	1,113	1,110	1,176	1,113	1,105	1,067	1,065	1,040	1,102	1,089	1,126	1,122
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,110	1,197	1,117	1,109	1,179	1,118	1,125	1,086	1,094	1,069	1,093	1,108	1,133	1,120
" Dec. "	1,109	1,189	1,107	1,097	1,171	1,108	1,117	1,076	1,089	1,056	1,098	1,100	1,123	1,120
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,102	1,193	1,109	1,104	1,174	1,110	1,105	1,067	1,076	1,040	1,095	1,086	1,134	1,120
" June "	1,103	1,193	1,113	1,109	1,177	1,112	1,100	1,061	1,066	1,043	1,096	1,083	1,125	1,121
" Sept. "	1,110	1,204	1,118	1,118	1,184	1,118	1,106	1,072	1,069	1,041	1,116	1,099	1,129	1,125
" Dec. "	1,104	1,203	1,110	1,110	1,168	1,112	1,100	1,067	1,059	1,042	1,108	1,099	1,120	1,122

(a) For Index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, see page 19. (b) *Charted Towers.* (c) *Watwick.*

Retail Price "Group" Index Numbers(d) : Food and Groceries—Group I.

(Base : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	638	..	..	..	..	..	616	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	964	977	972	950	935	964	923	928	919	941	948	924
Year 1939 ..	936	965	1,106	991	940	942	942	939	930	946	955	942
" 1940 ..	952	985	1,069	1,003	951	958	947	935	949	939	955	946
" 1941 ..	962	1,000	1,134	1,010	955	969	943	930	954	928	946	912
" 1942 ..	1,040	1,074	1,244	1,095	1,033	1,047	1,042	1,017	1,038	1,002	1,018	1,039
" 1943 ..	1,042	1,066	1,234	1,090	1,027	1,048	1,055	1,049	1,042	1,013	1,035	1,053
" 1944 ..	1,025	1,045	1,252	1,079	1,024	1,032	1,049	1,037	1,042	1,006	1,037	1,047
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,039	1,065	1,230	1,086	1,025	1,045	1,056	1,044	1,040	1,017	1,033	1,054
" Dec. "	1,015	1,042	1,236	1,070	1,005	1,022	1,037	1,023	1,032	994	1,011	1,034
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,019	1,046	1,242	1,081	1,014	1,026	1,039	1,023	1,034	995	1,012	1,036
" June "	1,025	1,044	1,244	1,078	1,025	1,032	1,047	1,035	1,039	1,005	1,030	1,045
" Sept. "	1,035	1,050	1,264	1,080	1,032	1,041	1,063	1,050	1,054	1,023	1,056	1,061
" Dec. "	1,022	1,039	1,259	1,075	1,025	1,028	1,046	1,039	1,039	1,001	1,051	1,044

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambler.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	614	..	..	..	..	..	683	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	955	895	949	981b	936c	950	941	945	968	923	997	943
Year 1939 ..	864	823	904	961	912	872	897	973	996	937	981	904
" 1940 ..	889	852	921	969	931	896	900	967	985	919	976	906
" 1941 ..	911	862	931	981	958	915	905	967	1,005	912	977	912
" 1942 ..	972	951	992	1,048	1,024	979	1,012	1,053	1,094	988	1,056	1,016
" 1943 ..	975	974	995	1,041	1,033	982	1,003	1,044	1,076	984	1,039	1,007
" 1944 ..	965	1,003	1,002	1,049	1,027	977	993	1,030	1,061	996	1,033	997
1943 Sept. Qtr.	968	956	985	1,031	1,024	975	1,003	1,041	1,075	986	1,035	1,007
" Dec. "	950	985	988	1,027	1,015	962	985	1,030	1,053	974	1,016	989
1944 Mar. Qtr.	968	1,003	1,003	1,046	1,028	980	989	1,029	1,057	976	1,018	993
" June "	967	1,005	1,007	1,051	1,032	980	995	1,031	1,064	987	1,028	999
" Sept. "	964	1,001	1,000	1,049	1,024	976	999	1,034	1,067	1,011	1,048	1,003
" Dec. "	959	1,003	998	1,049	1,023	972	988	1,026	1,056	1,010	1,038	992

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.					
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queensdown.	Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.
Nov. 1914 (a)	746	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	641
" 1921 ..	1,005	1,120	1,054	1,049	1,031	1,033	1,027	958	1,108	996	1,077	950
Year 1939 ..	938	1,092	972	967	947	951	923	914	941	933	1,018	925
" 1940 ..	949	1,104	986	969	952	961	944	933	961	959	1,029	945
" 1941 ..	981	1,153	1,039	996	1,000	995	970	951	999	984	1,037	968
" 1942 ..	1,029	1,176	1,078	1,034	1,043	1,041	1,047	1,008	1,055	1,034	1,079	1,035
" 1943 ..	1,059	1,179	1,071	1,039	1,080	1,068	1,062	1,017	1,096	1,057	1,137	1,052
" 1944 ..	1,056	1,180	1,066	1,036	1,095	1,066	1,035	988	1,030	1,020	1,135	1,023
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,062	1,178	1,070	1,036	1,104	1,071	1,075	1,029	1,103	1,068	1,147	1,064
" Dec. "	1,045	1,163	1,054	1,015	1,088	1,054	1,058	1,009	1,090	1,057	1,133	1,047
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,051	1,169	1,056	1,026	1,092	1,060	1,029	982	1,058	1,022	1,121	1,018
" June "	1,057	1,179	1,072	1,038	1,102	1,067	1,026	981	1,013	1,008	1,126	1,014
" Sept. "	1,067	1,188	1,080	1,049	1,112	1,077	1,044	997	1,032	1,029	1,148	1,032
" Dec. "	1,049	1,185	1,057	1,031	1,074	1,059	1,039	990	1,019	1,019	1,146	1,026

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 19.

(b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.

(d) See footnote (a) on page 9.

Retail Price "Group" Index-Numbers(d) : Housing (4 and 5 Rooms)—Group II.

(Base: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	758	..	..	..	..	..	608	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,000	885	559	881	596	966	845	479	527	668	685	789
Year 1939 ..	1,035	890	764	871	843	1,015	955	714	731	876	921	938
" 1940 ..	1,042	900	778	871	845	1,023	969	705	735	884	933	950
" 1941 ..	1,043	901	773	879	845	1,024	975	706	738	892	939	956
" 1942 ..	1,043	902	758	881	844	1,024	975	709	742	890	937	956
" 1943 ..	1,042	902	753	882	844	1,023	974	709	742	889	934	956
" 1944 ..	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	974	711	743	888	934	955
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,042	902	753	882	843	1,022	974	709	742	889	934	956
" Dec. "	1,042	902	752	882	843	1,022	974	710	742	888	934	955
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	974	711	743	888	934	955
" June "	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	974	712	743	888	934	955
" Sept. "	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	973	712	743	887	934	955
" Dec. "	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	973	708	743	887	934	955
Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambler.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	463	..	..	..	..	..	611	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	629	547	470	528b	535c	594	819	566	603	492	566	781
Year 1939 ..	854	847	753	861	640	840	888	388	710	686	753	862
" 1940 ..	857	852	755	861	642	843	892	387	716	692	773	866
" 1941 ..	860	854	763	863	647	846	893	385	714	712	767	867
" 1942 ..	862	858	766	865	655	849	893	381	713	715	755	866
" 1943 ..	862	859	768	865	668	850	893	383	713	715	755	866
" 1944 ..	863	859	767	865	672	850	892	385	713	715	754	866
1943 Sept. Qtr.	862	859	768	865	668	850	892	384	713	715	756	866
" Dec. "	862	859	768	865	670	850	893	384	713	715	756	866
1944 Mar. Qtr.	863	859	767	865	672	850	892	384	713	715	754	866
" June "	863	859	767	865	672	850	892	384	713	715	754	866
" Sept. "	863	859	767	865	672	850	892	384	713	715	754	866
" Dec. "	863	860	767	865	672	850	892	386	713	715	755	866
Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.					
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Ave. W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Ave. Tas.
Nov. 1914 (a)	586	..	..	..	..	..	525	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	754	578	616	649	779	709	870	676	294	150	495	729
Year 1939 ..	881	1,318	886	1,005	1,064	919	925	831	836	763	806	887
" 1940 ..	882	1,315	890	1,003	1,066	920	933	836	847	767	813	893
" 1941 ..	883	1,308	894	1,001	1,068	921	933	839	845	769	812	895
" 1942 ..	885	1,167	879	983	1,062	910	933	860	850	770	806	895
" 1943 ..	885	1,038	898	970	1,058	902	931	859	850	770	805	894
" 1944 ..	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	932	861	850	770	804	895
1943 Sept. Qtr.	885	1,038	898	970	1,058	902	931	859	850	770	805	894
" Dec. "	885	1,036	898	970	1,058	902	931	859	850	770	804	894
1944 Mar. Qtr.	886	1,036	898	974	1,059	902	931	860	850	770	804	894
" June "	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	931	861	850	770	804	894
" Sept. "	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	932	862	849	770	804	895
" Dec. "	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	933	862	849	770	804	895
Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.					
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Ave. W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Ave. Tas.
Nov. 1914 (a)	586	..	..	..	..	..	525	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	754	578	616	649	779	709	870	676	294	150	495	729
Year 1939 ..	881	1,318	886	1,005	1,064	919	925	831	836	763	806	887
" 1940 ..	882	1,315	890	1,003	1,066	920	933	836	847	767	813	893
" 1941 ..	883	1,308	894	1,001	1,068	921	933	839	845	769	812	895
" 1942 ..	885	1,167	879	983	1,062	910	933	860	850	770	806	895
" 1943 ..	885	1,038	898	970	1,058	902	931	859	850	770	805	894
" 1944 ..	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	932	861	850	770	804	895
1943 Sept. Qtr.	885	1,038	898	970	1,058	902	931	859	850	770	805	894
" Dec. "	885	1,036	898	970	1,058	902	931	859	850	770	804	894
1944 Mar. Qtr.	886	1,036	898	974	1,059	902	931	860	850	770	804	894
" June "	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	931	861	850	770	804	894
" Sept. "	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	932	862	849	770	804	895
" Dec. "	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	933	862	849	770	804	895

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 19.
Towers.

(c) Warwick.

(d) See footnotes (a) and (b) on page 9.

(b) Charters

Retail Price "Group" Index-Numbers(d): Clothing—Group III.
(Base: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
NOV. 1914 (a)	755	..	..	..	..	..	760	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,255	1,327	1,269	1,374	1,261	1,264	1,271	1,599	1,570	1,463	1,612	1,326
Year 1939 ..	843	823	850	861	840	842	832	851	841	846	842	833
" 1940 ..	950	941	970	960	964	951	969	960	986	963	966	970
" 1941 ..	1,119	1,113	1,125	1,144	1,137	1,119	1,119	1,142	1,119	1,122	1,115	1,120
" 1942 ..	1,302	1,293	1,389	1,320	1,308	1,302	1,332	1,336	1,337	1,317	1,330	1,331
" 1943 ..	1,450	1,446	1,438	1,463	1,471	1,450	1,455	1,473	1,466	1,450	1,462	1,456
" 1944 ..	1,440	1,407	1,439	1,458	1,459	1,438	1,446	1,471	1,490	1,477	1,472	1,450
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,463	1,455	1,473	1,475	1,494	1,463	1,454	1,476	1,473	1,470	1,469	1,456
Dec. "	1,449	1,430	1,443	1,460	1,467	1,448	1,435	1,457	1,474	1,433	1,449	1,437
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,443	1,432	1,434	1,457	1,465	1,442	1,438	1,457	1,476	1,453	1,454	1,441
June "	1,437	1,388	1,426	1,462	1,483	1,433	1,439	1,472	1,492	1,480	1,485	1,443
Sept. "	1,437	1,390	1,426	1,458	1,458	1,438	1,442	1,475	1,485	1,475	1,485	1,440
Dec. "	1,441	1,420	1,452	1,458	1,461	1,440	1,446	1,469	1,505	1,499	1,490	1,468

QUEENSLAND.**SOUTH AUSTRALIA.**

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
NOV. 1914 (a)	657	..	..	..	..	..	756	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,125	1,408	1,452	1,568	1,519	1,235	1,195	1,445	1,480	1,697	1,186	1,228
Year 1939 ..	840	838	856	855	852	843	863	852	854	852	844	862
" 1940 ..	958	951	973	968	956	952	961	930	933	947	935	959
" 1941 ..	1,188	1,122	1,143	1,176	1,126	1,125	1,120	1,090	1,093	1,093	1,075	1,174
" 1942 ..	1,289	1,297	1,343	1,342	1,308	1,284	1,282	1,247	1,273	1,286	1,278	1,258
" 1943 ..	1,420	1,426	1,445	1,460	1,435	1,394	1,409	1,388	1,409	1,420	1,413	1,408
" 1944 ..	1,427	1,400	1,434	1,455	1,438	1,430	1,409	1,395	1,412	1,420	1,429	1,409
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,434	1,447	1,482	1,473	1,452	1,442	1,424	1,414	1,429	1,450	1,428	1,425
Dec. "	1,433	1,423	1,398	1,471	1,445	1,433	1,422	1,405	1,417	1,420	1,430	1,421
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,425	1,440	1,451	1,451	1,431	1,428	1,415	1,402	1,420	1,422	1,431	1,415
June "	1,425	1,400	1,451	1,456	1,442	1,428	1,395	1,381	1,392	1,404	1,413	1,395
Sept. "	1,429	1,404	1,457	1,458	1,440	1,432	1,411	1,392	1,417	1,429	1,438	1,411
Dec. "	1,430	1,404	1,447	1,454	1,439	1,431	1,416	1,404	1,417	1,426	1,432	1,416

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.**TASMANIA.**

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.					
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.
NOV. 1914 (a)	698	..	..	..	..	..	825	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,233	1,376	1,382	1,454	1,350	1,277	1,427	1,670	1,525	1,405	1,504	1,513
Year 1939 ..	832	855	842	849	847	834	856	853	843	844	833	854
" 1940 ..	928	959	933	938	936	929	956	904	947	938	943	957
" 1941 ..	1,098	1,132	1,108	1,108	1,102	1,101	1,123	1,120	1,103	1,114	1,120	1,118
" 1942 ..	1,283	1,269	1,269	1,247	1,201	1,280	1,308	1,284	1,271	1,283	1,299	1,308
" 1943 ..	1,390	1,400	1,390	1,374	1,396	1,396	1,427	1,404	1,409	1,416	1,418	1,440
" 1944 ..	1,401	1,420	1,408	1,403	1,419	1,404	1,428	1,406	1,423	1,407	1,423	1,435
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,413	1,423	1,419	1,404	1,418	1,414	1,430	1,416	1,427	1,445	1,402	1,450
Dec. "	1,395	1,412	1,400	1,379	1,406	1,396	1,430	1,405	1,424	1,445	1,400	1,436
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,398	1,421	1,408	1,396	1,418	1,400	1,436	1,412	1,427	1,403	1,412	1,434
June "	1,390	1,412	1,399	1,396	1,411	1,393	1,420	1,392	1,410	1,385	1,412	1,429
Sept. "	1,404	1,440	1,408	1,410	1,426	1,408	1,433	1,415	1,427	1,414	1,440	1,433
Dec. "	1,412	1,443	1,416	1,411	1,422	1,414	1,424	1,406	1,419	1,426	1,434	1,442
												1,448

(a) For Index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 19. (b) Charters Towers.
 (c) Warwick. (d) See footnote (a) on page 9.

Retail Price "Group" Index-Numbers(d) : Miscellaneous—Group IV.

(Base : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	766	..	..	..	..	..	728	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,009	995	1,102	951	989	1,011	1,021	956	1,012	1,033	880	1,015
Year 1939 ..	940	901	1,048	908	888	938	977	990	1,004	980	951	978
" 1940 ..	984	948	1,101	942	936	982	1,009	1,023	1,037	1,011	985	1,010
" 1941 ..	1,051	990	1,159	1,006	999	1,048	1,066	1,086	1,094	1,062	1,049	1,067
" 1942 ..	1,105	1,018	1,214	1,069	1,049	1,100	1,115	1,146	1,154	1,122	1,102	1,117
" 1943 ..	1,166	1,072	1,276	1,112	1,094	1,160	1,155	1,193	1,216	1,188	1,159	1,159
" 1944 ..	1,171	1,079	1,287	1,108	1,096	1,165	1,158	1,198	1,221	1,190	1,167	1,162
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,176	1,074	1,283	1,114	1,096	1,169	1,156	1,195	1,219	1,195	1,164	1,161
" Dec. "	1,179	1,076	1,287	1,112	1,095	1,172	1,157	1,195	1,221	1,192	1,161	1,161
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,176	1,078	1,289	1,104	1,094	1,169	1,156	1,196	1,223	1,188	1,164	1,161
" June "	1,172	1,078	1,288	1,113	1,095	1,166	1,157	1,196	1,225	1,186	1,169	1,161
" Sept. "	1,167	1,079	1,287	1,108	1,097	1,161	1,160	1,202	1,221	1,189	1,165	1,164
" Dec. "	1,169	1,082	1,284	1,107	1,098	1,163	1,158	1,199	1,215	1,195	1,170	1,162

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambler.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	728	..	..	..	..	..	770	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	944	953	1,002	1,009 ^b	988 ^c	958	1,033	1,065	1,065	1,032	1,000	1,036
Year 1939 ..	955	983	969	996	992	962	1,022	989	999	1,017	994	1,019
" 1940 ..	979	1,003	1,001	1,026	1,002	985	1,051	1,021	1,031	1,053	1,015	1,049
" 1941 ..	1,028	1,059	1,057	1,085	1,059	1,037	1,127	1,106	1,109	1,118	1,084	1,125
" 1942 ..	1,077	1,118	1,116	1,125	1,118	1,087	1,184	1,188	1,175	1,185	1,164	1,184
" 1943 ..	1,129	1,167	1,163	1,180	1,159	1,138	1,211	1,229	1,207	1,229	1,224	1,211
" 1944 ..	1,137	1,169	1,171	1,187	1,169	1,146	1,213	1,235	1,207	1,232	1,227	1,214
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,134	1,169	1,166	1,184	1,162	1,143	1,212	1,231	1,207	1,227	1,225	1,213
" Dec. "	1,140	1,169	1,166	1,191	1,161	1,148	1,212	1,235	1,209	1,228	1,228	1,213
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,138	1,170	1,168	1,190	1,167	1,146	1,213	1,236	1,207	1,229	1,228	1,214
" June "	1,139	1,170	1,174	1,189	1,171	1,148	1,213	1,235	1,208	1,229	1,227	1,214
" Sept. "	1,137	1,168	1,171	1,185	1,171	1,146	1,213	1,235	1,207	1,230	1,227	1,214
" Dec. "	1,134	1,167	1,169	1,183	1,165	1,143	1,213	1,235	1,207	1,232	1,225	1,214

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.							
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.	Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
Nov. 1914 (a)	780	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..	749	..
" 1921 ..	1,029	1,030	1,016	977	1,102	1,029	932	985	941	960	959	952	1,010	1,009
Year 1939 ..	954	974	948	912	1,034	956	938	947	874	882	881	934	962	962
" 1940 ..	985	1,006	975	942	1,053	987	969	973	904	898	919	963	998	997
" 1941 ..	1,043	1,068	1,035	992	1,111	1,044	1,015	1,008	938	936	967	1,005	1,060	1,058
" 1942 ..	1,093	1,122	1,096	1,032	1,160	1,095	1,065	1,050	960	963	999	1,049	1,112	1,110
" 1943 ..	1,136	1,179	1,140	1,084	1,205	1,140	1,105	1,101	1,005	1,011	1,044	1,093	1,160	1,159
" 1944 ..	1,144	1,180	1,143	1,100	1,216	1,147	1,100	1,097	997	1,002	1,052	1,089	1,165	1,164
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,140	1,185	1,139	1,091	1,208	1,144	1,105	1,105	1,002	1,012	1,052	1,095	1,165	1,164
" Dec. "	1,140	1,184	1,139	1,093	1,210	1,144	1,109	1,104	1,005	1,008	1,055	1,097	1,168	1,166
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,143	1,189	1,143	1,096	1,214	1,147	1,101	1,103	997	1,003	1,056	1,092	1,166	1,165
" June "	1,147	1,192	1,146	1,097	1,219	1,151	1,098	1,098	997	1,003	1,053	1,088	1,165	1,164
" Sept. "	1,145	1,191	1,145	1,108	1,218	1,149	1,100	1,091	1,000	1,006	1,051	1,089	1,164	1,163
" Dec. "	1,139	1,185	1,139	1,098	1,211	1,142	1,099	1,094	994	996	1,049	1,088	1,163	1,162

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, see page 19. (b) Charters Towers.
(c) Warwick. (d) See footnote (a) on page 9.

3. "B" Series Retail Price Index-Numbers : Food, Groceries and Rent.—This index measures the prices of food and groceries and the rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses. It was first compiled for the year 1925, and retrospectively for several earlier years. It was designed to replace the "A" series index (food, groceries and rent of all houses), which was the original index compiled in 1912. The first of the following tables covers only the Six Capital Cities and gives index-numbers for the two Groups of the regimen involved split up into their various Sections, while the two succeeding tables give for each of the 30 Towns, the weighted averages of each State, the Six Capital Cities and the 30 Towns:—The "B" Series as a whole (second table—including three additional towns not in the weighted averages), and the "B" Series split up into its two Groups (third table).

Retail Price Index-Numbers(b) : Capital Cities—"B" Series.

(Base of each Section: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

TOWN.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1939.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
SECTION A.—GROCERIES.									
Sydney	510	574	627	1,115	994	989	1,082	1,016	965
Melbourne	461	521	562	1,070	957	924	1,034	967	924
Brisbane	547	614	607	1,105	944	957	1,066	989	934
Adelaide	510	541	598	1,076	939	932	1,073	979	939
Perth	572	720	628	1,103	966	983	1,048	1,007	993
Hobart	501	566	604	1,087	947	950	1,048	971	925
SIX CAPITALS (a) ..	499	564	599	1,093	969	958	1,061	992	946

SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.									
Sydney	551	574	656	1,080	851	863	924	947	960
Melbourne	571	567	635	1,087	885	893	943	971	970
Brisbane	495	581	588	983	793	808	871	902	932
Adelaide	548	651	705	1,018	800	798	861	888	895
Perth	709	733	735	1,152	870	878	922	976	982
Hobart	564	587	695	1,091	844	873	932	967	968
SIX CAPITALS (a) ..	563	591	654	1,072	853	862	919	947	956

SECTION C.—MEAT.									
Sydney	519	501	668	960	935	1,015	1,089	1,160	1,158
Melbourne	557	485	663	1,030	968	1,007	1,142	1,242	1,279
Brisbane	535	488	610	897	822	943	942	1,018	1,026
Adelaide	553	541	784	1,095	929	969	1,074	1,138	1,151
Perth	780	824	881	1,103	958	1,070	1,102	1,199	1,239
Hobart	668	638	780	1,244	961	1,082	1,149	1,265	1,233
SIX CAPITALS (a) ..	558	522	691	1,010	936	1,006	1,092	1,175	1,190

SECTIONS A, B AND C COMBINED.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.									
Sydney	523	553	646	1,062	936	962	1,040	1,042	1,025
Melbourne	517	523	610	1,063	942	943	1,042	1,055	1,049
Brisbane	530	569	603	1,014	864	911	972	975	965
Adelaide	532	570	679	1,066	897	905	1,012	1,003	993
Perth	670	753	728	1,166	938	981	1,029	1,059	1,056
Hobart	565	592	678	1,133	923	970	1,047	1,062	1,035
SIX CAPITALS (a) ..	533	559	640	1,064	927	947	1,031	1,037	1,026

SECTION D.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).(c)									
Sydney	593	701	760	989	1,035	1,043	1,043	1,042	1,043
Melbourne	455	569	628	820	955	975	975	974	974
Brisbane	283	373	466	630	854	860	862	862	863
Adelaide	510	706	655	809	888	893	893	893	892
Perth	458	524	589	739	881	883	885	885	886
Hobart	405	452	518	881	925	933	933	931	932
SIX CAPITALS (a) ..	497	612	662	862	965	976	976	975	976

ALL SECTIONS COMBINED.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.									
Sydney	548	606	687	1,036	972	992	1,039	1,040	1,030
Melbourne	495	539	616	977	945	963	1,014	1,021	1,017
Brisbane	442	500	554	877	858	889	927	929	923
Adelaide	524	618	671	975	891	899	963	958	951
Perth	594	672	679	982	914	941	971	989	987
Hobart	508	542	621	1,044	922	953	1,000	1,009	992
SIX CAPITALS (a) ..	520	578	648	992	939	956	1,007	1,011	1,004

(a) Weighted average.

(b) See footnote (a) on page 9.

(c) See footnote (b) on page 9.

Retail Price Index-Numbers : Thirty Towns—"B" Series.

(Base : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

State and Town.	Nov. 1914.	Nov. 1921.	1929.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	
NEW SOUTH WALES—											
Sydney	680	977	1,115	941	972	985	992	1,039	1,040	1,030	
Newcastle	944	1,068	898	934	950	959	1,005	1,000	987	
Broken Hill	825	1,078	948	970	953	991	1,052	1,044	1,055	
Goulburn	926	1,146	908	942	950	957	1,009	1,007	999	
Bathurst	815	987	867	900	908	910	957	953	951	
FIVE TOWNS(a)	965	1,110	937	969	980	988	1,036	1,036	1,026	
VICTORIA—											
Melbourne	613	895	1,036	902	945	953	953	1,014	1,021	1,017	
Ballarat	769	914	808	849	843	841	894	908	907	
Bendigo	780	962	817	851	864	868	920	923	923	
Geelong	844	985	872	917	915	912	956	962	958	
Warrnambool	855	940	898	940	944	941	984	993	995	
FIVE TOWNS(a)	876	1,026	895	938	946	946	1,005	1,012	1,009	
QUEENSLAND—											
Brisbane	560	840	912	838	858	875	889	927	929	923	
Toowoomba	771	855	806	830	840	857	913	927	945	
Rockhampton	779	877	825	843	854	863	901	904	908	
Townsville	820b	975L	900	920	925	933	974	970	975	
Bundaberg	694c	867r	781	804	817	835	878	888	886	
FIVE TOWNS(a)	824	906	837	858	873	886	926	928	926	
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—											
Adelaide	658	898	1,030	862	891	895	899	963	958	951	
Kadina, etc.	811	891	702	743	739	738	789	784	776	
Port Pirie	839	963	838	882	877	889	943	932	923	
Mount Gambier	770	866	801	838	828	832	879	877	884	
Peterborough	844	1,042	836	890	895	893	936	926	922	
FIVE TOWNS(a)	885	1,020	855	885	888	892	955	950	944	
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—											
Perth, etc.	689	916	1,038	887	914	921	941	971	989	987	
Kalgoorlie, etc.	928	1,010	1,152	1,178	1,184	1,211	1,160	1,122	1,121	
Northam	898	1,072	911	936	946	980	1,005	1,001	999	
Bunbury	907	996	945	979	979	996	1,011	1,010	1,010	
Geraldton	942	1,090	974	990	995	1,024	1,048	1,069	1,079	
FIVE TOWNS(a)	918	1,036	909	936	943	964	988	1,001	1,000	
TASMANIA—											
Hobart	630	971	992	891	922	938	953	1,000	1,009	992	
Launceston	858	937	867	887	901	913	948	953	936	
Burnie	819	972	880	898	914	937	973	998	958	
Devonport	606	930	846	875	882	898	928	942	920	
Queenstown	871	920	900	933	942	947	970	1,005	1,004	
FIVE TOWNS(a)	911	970	882	908	923	937	978	988	970	
THIRTY TOWNS(a)											
	..	907	1,044	902	935	945	952	1,001	1,005	998	
SIX CAPITALS(a)											
	..	644	924	1,054	906	939	950	956	1,011	1,011	1,004
Canberra, A.C.T.											
Warwick, Qld.	794	867	1,043	1,025	1,028	1,028	1,078	1,073	1,058	
Port Augusta, S.A.	861	1,047	831	864	878	896	932	914	914	

(a) Weighted Average.

(b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.

Retail Price Index-Numbers ("B" Series).

(Base of each Section (a) : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
1940 ..	952	985	1,069	1,003	951	958	947	935	949	939	955	946
1941 ..	962	1,000	1,134	1,010	955	969	943	930	954	928	946	942
1942 ..	1,040	1,074	1,244	1,095	1,033	1,047	1,042	1,017	1,038	1,002	1,018	1,039
1943 ..	1,042	1,066	1,234	1,090	1,027	1,048	1,055	1,049	1,042	1,013	1,035	1,053
1944 ..	1,025	1,045	1,252	1,079	1,024	1,032	1,049	1,037	1,042	1,006	1,037	1,047
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,039	1,065	1,230	1,086	1,025	1,045	1,056	1,044	1,040	1,017	1,033	1,054
Dec. "	1,015	1,042	1,236	1,070	1,005	1,022	1,037	1,023	1,032	994	1,011	1,034
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,019	1,046	1,242	1,081	1,014	1,026	1,039	1,023	1,034	995	1,012	1,036
June "	1,025	1,044	1,244	1,078	1,025	1,032	1,047	1,035	1,039	1,005	1,030	1,045
Sept. "	1,035	1,050	1,264	1,080	1,032	1,041	1,063	1,050	1,054	1,023	1,056	1,061
Dec. "	1,022	1,039	1,259	1,075	1,025	1,028	1,046	1,039	1,039	1,001	1,051	1,044
1943.												
July ..	1,071	1,096	1,240	1,115	1,055	1,076	1,077	1,070	1,060	1,039	1,059	1,074
August ..	1,026	1,052	1,212	1,072	1,014	1,032	1,048	1,033	1,022	1,008	1,022	1,045
September ..	1,020	1,048	1,238	1,072	1,007	1,026	1,044	1,028	1,039	1,003	1,019	1,041
October ..	1,021	1,045	1,235	1,070	1,006	1,028	1,042	1,028	1,038	1,000	1,020	1,040
November ..	1,013	1,041	1,236	1,068	1,003	1,020	1,035	1,025	1,033	992	1,006	1,033
December ..	1,010	1,041	1,239	1,073	1,005	1,017	1,033	1,017	1,024	990	1,008	1,030
1944.												
January ..	1,019	1,044	1,243	1,081	1,013	1,026	1,039	1,023	1,035	995	1,013	1,037
February ..	1,017	1,046	1,243	1,082	1,014	1,024	1,038	1,023	1,036	995	1,013	1,036
March ..	1,022	1,048	1,241	1,080	1,015	1,028	1,038	1,023	1,030	994	1,011	1,036
April ..	1,020	1,041	1,243	1,076	1,020	1,027	1,040	1,027	1,030	994	1,013	1,037
May ..	1,020	1,040	1,244	1,076	1,020	1,027	1,042	1,030	1,031	1,003	1,034	1,040
June ..	1,036	1,051	1,246	1,081	1,035	1,041	1,061	1,047	1,055	1,020	1,042	1,058
July ..	1,038	1,054	1,268	1,080	1,034	1,044	1,071	1,052	1,061	1,026	1,057	1,068
August ..	1,038	1,051	1,269	1,083	1,035	1,043	1,066	1,051	1,057	1,031	1,061	1,064
September ..	1,029	1,044	1,255	1,077	1,027	1,035	1,053	1,046	1,044	1,014	1,051	1,052
October ..	1,027	1,045	1,255	1,077	1,026	1,033	1,053	1,046	1,043	1,010	1,050	1,051
November ..	1,020	1,037	1,257	1,075	1,026	1,027	1,041	1,034	1,036	999	1,051	1,039
December ..	1,018	1,033	1,266	1,073	1,025	1,025	1,043	1,036	1,037	996	1,051	1,041

GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS). (b)

1940 ..	1,042	900	778	872	845	1,023	969	705	735	884	933	950
1941 ..	1,043	901	773	879	845	1,024	975	706	738	892	939	956
1942 ..	1,043	902	758	881	844	1,024	975	709	742	890	937	956
1943 ..	1,042	902	753	882	844	1,023	974	709	742	889	934	956
1944 ..	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	974	711	743	888	934	955
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,042	902	753	882	843	1,022	974	709	742	889	934	956
Dec. "	1,042	902	752	882	843	1,022	974	710	742	888	934	955
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	974	711	743	888	934	955
June "	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	974	712	743	888	934	955
Sept. "	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	973	712	743	887	934	955
Dec. "	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	973	708	743	887	934	955

GROUPS I.-II.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.

1940 ..	985	950	953	950	908	980	953	843	864	915	944	946
1941 ..	992	959	991	957	910	988	953	841	868	912	941	946
1942 ..	1,039	1,005	1,052	1,009	957	1,036	1,014	894	920	956	984	1,005
1943 ..	1,040	1,000	1,044	1,007	953	1,036	1,021	908	923	962	993	1,012
1944 ..	1,030	987	1,055	999	951	1,026	1,017	907	923	958	995	1,009
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,038	999	1,041	1,004	952	1,034	1,022	911	922	964	992	1,013
Dec. "	1,023	985	1,045	994	940	1,020	1,010	899	916	950	979	1,001
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,026	988	1,049	1,001	945	1,023	1,011	899	918	951	979	1,002
June "	1,030	987	1,050	999	952	1,026	1,016	906	921	957	990	1,008
Sept. "	1,036	990	1,062	1,000	956	1,032	1,026	916	930	968	1,006	1,017
Dec. "	1,027	984	1,059	997	952	1,024	1,015	907	921	955	1,003	1,007

(a) See footnote (a) on page 9.

(b) See footnote (b) on page 9.

Retail Price Index-Numbers ("B" Series)—continued.

(Base of each Section (a): Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
1940 ..	889	852	921	969	931	896	900	967	985	919	976	906
1941 ..	911	862	931	981	958	915	905	967	1,005	912	977	912
1942 ..	972	951	992	1,048	1,024	979	1,012	1,053	1,094	988	1,056	1,016
1943 ..	975	974	995	1,041	1,033	982	1,003	1,044	1,076	984	1,039	1,007
1944 ..	995	1,003	1,002	1,049	1,027	977	993	1,030	1,061	996	1,033	997
1943 Sept. Qtr.	968	956	985	1,031	1,024	975	1,003	1,041	1,075	986	1,035	1,007
Dec. "	950	985	988	1,027	1,015	962	985	1,030	1,053	974	1,016	989
1944 Mar. Qtr.	968	1,003	1,003	1,046	1,028	980	989	1,029	1,057	976	1,018	993
June "	967	1,005	1,007	1,051	1,032	980	995	1,031	1,064	987	1,028	999
Sept. "	994	1,001	1,000	1,049	1,024	976	999	1,034	1,067	1,011	1,048	1,003
Dec. "	959	1,003	998	1,049	1,023	972	988	1,026	1,056	1,010	1,038	992
1943.												
July ..	1,002	991	1,012	1,061	1,051	1,008	1,024	1,063	1,100	1,003	1,059	1,028
August ..	953	943	958	1,009	1,003	958	996	1,031	1,065	977	1,025	999
September ..	950	935	984	1,023	1,017	958	990	1,029	1,059	978	1,022	994
October ..	952	986	987	1,023	1,020	964	986	1,028	1,054	976	1,016	989
November ..	948	985	988	1,025	1,013	960	984	1,032	1,053	972	1,015	988
December ..	951	986	989	1,034	1,012	964	984	1,031	1,052	973	1,017	988
1944.												
January ..	963	995	996	1,037	1,017	974	990	1,032	1,056	976	1,017	993
February ..	971	1,006	1,004	1,050	1,034	983	990	1,027	1,057	977	1,019	993
March ..	971	1,007	1,007	1,052	1,032	983	988	1,027	1,057	976	1,019	992
April ..	969	1,007	1,007	1,052	1,032	982	989	1,026	1,058	977	1,018	992
May ..	965	1,007	1,007	1,051	1,029	979	996	1,030	1,061	982	1,027	999
June ..	966	1,001	1,006	1,051	1,033	979	1,001	1,036	1,072	1,003	1,038	1,005
July ..	966	1,005	1,002	1,052	1,030	979	1,005	1,036	1,073	1,011	1,055	1,009
August ..	966	1,004	1,000	1,052	1,021	978	1,003	1,036	1,073	1,011	1,051	1,007
September ..	960	994	997	1,042	1,019	972	990	1,028	1,056	1,011	1,038	994
October ..	961	1,000	997	1,054	1,021	974	989	1,027	1,057	1,020	1,039	993
November ..	957	1,003	997	1,047	1,023	971	986	1,026	1,057	1,003	1,037	991
December ..	958	1,005	990	1,047	1,025	972	989	1,025	1,056	1,006	1,039	993

GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).(b)

1940 ..	857	852	755	861	642	843	892	387	716	692	773	866
1941 ..	860	854	763	863	647	846	893	385	714	712	767	867
1942 ..	862	858	766	865	655	849	893	381	713	715	755	866
1943 ..	862	859	768	865	668	850	893	383	713	715	755	866
1944 ..	863	859	767	865	672	850	892	385	713	715	754	866
1943 Sept. Qtr.	862	859	768	865	668	850	892	384	713	715	756	866
Dec. "	862	859	768	865	670	850	893	384	713	715	756	866
1944 Mar. Qtr.	863	859	767	865	672	850	892	384	713	715	754	866
June "	863	859	767	865	672	850	892	384	713	715	754	866
Sept. "	863	859	767	865	672	850	892	384	713	715	754	866
Dec. "	863	860	767	865	672	850	892	386	713	715	755	866

GROUPS I.-II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.

1940 ..	875	849	854	925	817	873	895	739	877	828	895	888
1941 ..	889	857	863	933	835	886	899	738	889	832	893	892
1942 ..	927	913	901	974	878	926	903	789	943	879	930	955
1943 ..	929	927	904	970	888	928	958	784	932	877	926	950
1944 ..	923	945	908	975	886	926	951	776	923	884	922	944
1943 Sept. Qtr.	925	916	898	964	883	924	958	782	931	878	924	950
Dec. "	914	934	900	962	878	916	947	776	918	870	912	939
1944 Mar. Qtr.	925	945	909	973	887	927	949	775	920	872	913	941
June "	924	946	911	976	889	927	953	776	925	879	919	945
Sept. "	922	943	907	975	884	925	955	778	927	893	931	948
Dec. "	919	945	906	975	884	923	948	774	920	892	925	941

(a) See footnote (a) on page 9.

(b) See footnote (b) on page 9.

Retail Price Index-Numbers ("B" Series)—continued.

(Base of each Section (a): Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, 6 Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Tasmania.		
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.														
1940 ..	949	1,104	986	969	952	961	944	933	961	959	1,029	945	939	942
1941 ..	981	1,153	1,039	996	1,000	995	970	951	999	984	1,037	968	947	951
1942 ..	1,029	1,176	1,078	1,034	1,043	1,041	1,047	1,008	1,055	1,034	1,079	1,035	1,031	1,033
1943 ..	1,059	1,179	1,071	1,039	1,080	1,068	1,062	1,017	1,096	1,057	1,137	1,052	1,037	1,040
1944 ..	1,056	1,180	1,066	1,036	1,095	1,066	1,035	988	1,030	1,020	1,135	1,023	1,026	1,029
1943 Sept. Qtr.	1,062	1,178	1,070	1,036	1,104	1,071	1,075	1,029	1,103	1,068	1,147	1,064	1,036	1,039
Dec. "	1,045	1,163	1,054	1,015	1,088	1,054	1,058	1,009	1,090	1,057	1,133	1,047	1,015	1,019
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,051	1,169	1,056	1,026	1,092	1,060	1,029	982	1,058	1,022	1,121	1,018	1,020	1,023
June "	1,057	1,179	1,072	1,038	1,102	1,067	1,026	981	1,013	1,008	1,126	1,014	1,025	1,029
Sept. "	1,067	1,188	1,080	1,049	1,112	1,077	1,044	997	1,032	1,029	1,148	1,032	1,036	1,039
Dec. "	1,049	1,185	1,057	1,031	1,074	1,059	1,039	990	1,018	1,019	1,146	1,026	1,022	1,025
1943.														
July ..	1,089	1,207	1,099	1,071	1,129	1,098	1,083	1,040	1,120	1,081	1,161	1,074	1,063	1,065
August ..	1,052	1,168	1,058	1,022	1,095	1,061	1,070	1,023	1,095	1,062	1,136	1,058	1,026	1,027
September ..	1,046	1,160	1,052	1,014	1,089	1,054	1,071	1,024	1,093	1,062	1,143	1,060	1,020	1,023
October ..	1,045	1,161	1,054	1,014	1,088	1,054	1,072	1,026	1,095	1,072	1,143	1,061	1,020	1,023
November ..	1,044	1,164	1,053	1,014	1,088	1,053	1,069	1,010	1,094	1,069	1,141	1,054	1,014	1,018
December ..	1,046	1,163	1,054	1,017	1,089	1,055	1,034	990	1,081	1,030	1,115	1,024	1,012	1,015
1944.														
January ..	1,051	1,168	1,051	1,024	1,090	1,060	1,035	989	1,084	1,032	1,120	1,025	1,020	1,023
February ..	1,052	1,169	1,058	1,025	1,092	1,061	1,026	979	1,084	1,033	1,122	1,017	1,019	1,022
March ..	1,050	1,169	1,059	1,028	1,093	1,059	1,025	978	1,008	1,000	1,120	1,012	1,021	1,024
April ..	1,049	1,170	1,059	1,029	1,093	1,058	1,024	978	1,009	1,001	1,120	1,011	1,020	1,023
May ..	1,054	1,174	1,070	1,034	1,097	1,064	1,022	976	1,011	1,004	1,120	1,010	1,022	1,025
June ..	1,069	1,193	1,086	1,052	1,116	1,070	1,032	988	1,079	1,020	1,138	1,021	1,036	1,038
July ..	1,069	1,187	1,085	1,053	1,117	1,070	1,032	989	1,025	1,019	1,138	1,022	1,040	1,043
August ..	1,071	1,192	1,084	1,051	1,114	1,081	1,052	1,003	1,042	1,041	1,155	1,040	1,039	1,041
September ..	1,061	1,184	1,072	1,045	1,105	1,071	1,047	998	1,028	1,027	1,152	1,034	1,029	1,032
October ..	1,056	1,183	1,063	1,035	1,085	1,065	1,048	998	1,026	1,028	1,152	1,034	1,027	1,030
November ..	1,045	1,186	1,053	1,030	1,069	1,056	1,049	998	1,025	1,027	1,157	1,036	1,020	1,023
December ..	1,046	1,186	1,054	1,029	1,060	1,056	1,019	974	1,004	1,001	1,129	1,008	1,019	1,023

GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS). (b)

1940 ..	882	1,315	890	1,003	1,066	920	933	856	847	767	813	893	973	955
1941 ..	883	1,308	894	1,001	1,068	921	933	859	845	769	812	895	976	958
1942 ..	885	1,167	879	983	1,062	910	933	860	850	770	806	895	976	957
1943 ..	885	1,038	898	970	1,058	902	931	859	850	770	805	894	975	956
1944 ..	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	932	861	850	770	804	895	976	956
1943 Sept. Qtr.	885	1,038	898	970	1,058	902	931	859	850	770	805	894	975	956
Dec. "	885	1,036	898	970	1,058	902	931	859	850	770	804	894	975	956
1944 Mar. Qtr.	886	1,036	898	974	1,059	902	931	860	850	770	804	894	976	956
June "	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	931	861	850	770	804	894	976	956
Sept. "	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	932	862	849	770	804	895	975	956
Dec. "	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	933	862	849	770	804	895	975	956

GROUPS I.-II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.

1940 ..	921	1,184	946	979	995	943	938	901	914	882	942	923	950	945
1941 ..	941	1,211	980	996	1,024	964	953	913	937	898	947	937	956	952
1942 ..	971	1,160	1,005	1,011	1,048	988	1,000	948	973	928	970	978	1,007	1,001
1943 ..	989	1,122	1,001	1,010	1,069	1,001	1,009	953	998	942	1,005	988	1,011	1,005
1944 ..	987	1,121	999	1,010	1,079	1,000	992	936	958	920	1,004	970	1,004	998
1943 Sept. Qtr.	991	1,121	1,000	1,008	1,084	1,003	1,016	961	1,002	949	1,011	995	1,010	1,004
Dec. "	980	1,111	991	995	1,074	992	1,006	948	994	942	1,002	984	997	992
1944 Mar. Qtr.	984	1,114	992	1,003	1,077	996	988	932	975	921	995	967	1,000	995
June "	988	1,120	1,002	1,011	1,083	1,000	987	932	947	913	998	965	1,004	998
Sept. "	994	1,126	1,007	1,018	1,080	1,006	998	942	958	926	1,011	976	1,010	1,004
Dec. "	983	1,124	993	1,007	1,066	996	995	938	950	919	1,010	973	1,002	996

(a) See footnote (a) on page 9.

(b) See footnote (b) on page 9.

§ 8. Retail Price Index-Numbers, 200 Towns.

To supplement the information collected monthly for the 30 towns specified in the preceding sections, a special investigation into prices in 70 additional towns was undertaken in November, 1913. This investigation was repeated in November, 1914, and again in November, 1915, when the number of additional towns was increased to 120. In November, 1923, the number was further increased to 170. Information in regard to prices obtained in November each year until 1942 related, therefore, to 200 towns. After 1942, collection of returns of these prices was temporarily suspended as a war-time economy. The results of the first investigation were published in Labour Bulletin No. 5 (pp. 26 to 33), and details respecting succeeding investigations are incorporated in the Labour Bulletins and Reports issued subsequently by this Bureau.

In issues of these publications prior to Labour Report No. 28 of 1937, information was given regarding movements in the rents of 4-roomed and 5-roomed houses. While the index-numbers were useful in a general way as a measure of changes in rents in any one town from time to time, there has been an increasing tendency to regard them as an adequate measure of the relative absolute levels of rents in different towns at any given date. In order to prevent such a misuse of the figures, and because of increasing doubts as to the ability of the Bureau, except at prohibitive cost, to ensure that returns of rents from all these towns shall be based on continuously representative samples, it was decided to limit the information collected to the prices of food and groceries. Should any industrial tribunal desire further information on house rentals in any of these towns, the Bureau will be prepared to consider requests for special investigations by its field officers.

§ 9. Changes in the Regimen of Indexes.

1. Revisions to 1936.—Since the original compilation of retail price indexes by the Bureau, the regimens of the several Groups and Sections have undergone some modifications. These are briefly as follows:—

(i) *Food and Groceries.*—The regimen for food and groceries, originally introduced in 1912, was based upon the relative consumption of the years 1906 to 1910, and the first revision was made in the September quarter of 1932 and was based on the years 1927 to 1929. The regimen in use up to that date will be found on page 13 of Labour Report No. 23. A second revision took place in the September quarter of 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936. The main features of this revision are referred to in (iv) below.

(ii) *Housing.*—The housing constituent of the regimen has also been revised. Originally the rentals of all houses from "3 rooms and under" to "8 rooms and over" were tabulated, and they were continuously used in the "A" series index (food and rent of all houses) from 1912 to 30th June, 1938, when this series was discontinued. They were also used in the "All Items" index up to and including the year 1924. From the following year rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses only were used in the "C" series index, and in the same year they were combined with food and groceries to form the "B" series index.

Since the December quarter of 1936, following on the resolutions of the 1936 Conference of Statisticians, the rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses in certain towns have been collected and tabulated on a somewhat different basis from that previously used, and for convenience is known as the "Census" basis. The returns in the twelve more important cities and towns show the rents of individual houses, on the basis of which variations from a pre-determined standard are measured. This standard, the change

in which has affected the index-numbers only in respect of the relative levels of rents in the different towns, and in respect of their absolute height, was determined by means of a special investigation of the 1933 Census data relating to rentals of all 4 and 5-roomed wood and brick houses occupied by fully-employed wage and salary-earners. This method not being generally applicable to the circumstances of small country towns, on account of the greater diversity of average "quality" of houses, the level of rents in these towns has continued to be determined from a sample of houses selected by house-agents in accordance with definite standards laid down. The variations in rentals from this standard, however, are measured in the same manner as described above for the twelve more important cities and towns.

(iii) *Clothing and Miscellaneous*.—The regimen for clothing and miscellaneous household requirements was originally introduced in 1921, and the first revision was made in the March quarter of 1935. Details of the original regimen were never published, but the revised regimen of 1935 appeared in Labour Report No. 26. A second revision took place in the September quarter of 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936. The main features of this revision are referred to in (iv) below. Some minor alterations have since been made in the regimen.

(iv) *Revision of 1936*.—The revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936, was of a comprehensive nature. The Resolutions of the Conference are reprinted in Appendix XI. of Labour Report No. 27.

This Conference not only recommended extensive revisions of the regimen from which the indexes are compiled, but also considered methods of collection and compilation. As a result of its deliberations, and subsequent discussions by correspondence, many improvements and refinements were introduced.

The changes in the regimen were made with a view to improving the index-numbers as measures of price variations. They comprised chiefly the elimination or replacement of articles no longer in demand, or which experience had shown to be unsuitable media for the measurement of price variations; the alteration of units of quantity in certain cases to conform with those in most general use; the adjustment of the mass-unit allotted to certain articles to bring them into accord with present-day consumption habits; and the re-adjustment of the population weights applicable to the several groups and sections of the regimen in accordance with the results of the 1933 Census. Definite grades or qualities were also established for each article in the regimen, to ensure that quotations should be given, as far as possible, for the same article at all times and in all places, and expert field officers were appointed to personally collect prices to the standard qualities laid down. Improved methods of collecting and weighting average house rentals were also adopted (see paragraph (ii) above).

(v) *Method of Effecting Changes*.—Changes of the nature mentioned are commonly made in price indexes without seriously impairing their continuity. In accordance with established principles of procedure in changing the regimen (see Labour Report No. 9, Appendix I., Part II., paragraphs 14 and 18), the general level of the index is taken as determined by the old regimen for the quarter in which the change is made, and the new regimen is used to measure variations in the price-level after that date. The linking up of the index-numbers on the old and the new basis is effected by the usual method of equating the respective weighted aggregate costs of the old and the new regimens in the six capital cities.

The method of effecting this is shortly as follows:—Up to the June quarter, 1942, all such changes were made by equating the new aggregate of the section embodying the changes to the former aggregate. This course

was adopted when items were added to or omitted from the regimen, and when a change was made in the standard of any item. From the September quarter, 1942, however, all changes of standard were effected by an appropriate adjustment of the "mass unit" or "weight" so as to preserve the percentage weight which the item carried in the aggregate from time to time, and wherever possible, the "weight" of any item dropped from the regimen was transferred to an article of a similar nature which would serve as a more appropriate medium for the measurement of the variations of the article dropped than the remaining items of the section—the "mass units" of which under the former procedure in effect were proportionately increased to carry the aggregate of the item dropped, or reduced to admit the new item added. See also par. 3 on pages 14 and 15.

While this involves no break of continuity in the index-numbers for the six capital cities as a whole, slight alterations of the relative positions of individual towns are inevitable on account of the alteration of former standards. The effect, however, is more noticeable in the group index-numbers than in those covering a combination of groups, wherein the losses and gains tend to balance out. Thus, in comparing group index-numbers for individual towns in respect of periods including the dates of change referred to in paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, the following considerations should be kept in mind:—

Food and Groceries.—These index-numbers are substantially comparable throughout the period up to the June quarter of 1936. From and including the September quarter of 1936, the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other, but are not strictly so with those for previous quarters.

Housing.—No change was ever made in the method of calculating the rentals of "All Houses", and consequently these index-numbers were comparable throughout the whole period of their existence.* In regard to rentals of houses of 4 and 5 rooms, however, the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other up to the June quarter of 1936. In the September quarter, 1936, a change was made in the weighting system which gave rise to slight disparities not due to rental fluctuations, and rendered the rent figures for individual towns not strictly comparable with those of former periods. The change, however, thereafter made the index-numbers for any one town more comparable with those of other towns. In the December quarter of 1936 the rent tabulations in the two principal towns of each State were placed on an entirely new basis, which rendered them incomparable individually with average rents of previous periods. This change was also introduced with the object of making the index-numbers for the principal towns more comparable *inter se* in any given quarter.

Clothing and Miscellaneous.—The index-numbers for individual towns up to and including 1934 are comparable with those for previous periods. Those for 1935, and the March and June quarters of 1936, are comparable for those periods, but not with the index-numbers of former or subsequent periods. From and including the September quarter of 1936, the index-numbers for individual towns are substantially comparable with each other, both from quarter to quarter and from town to town, but for individual towns they are not strictly continuous with those of previous periods.

2. *The Regimen under War Conditions.*—Between the comprehensive revision of 1936 and the outbreak of war in 1939 changes in conditions did not require any appreciable revision of the regimen or mass-units of items

* The tabulation of the "A" Series Index for which these rents were used was discontinued after the issue for June quarter, 1938.

therein. The adjustments made in 1936 had brought the basis of the index "up-to-date" in the sense that it conformed reasonably closely to normal pre-war usage. Although the effects of the war produced some variations from normal consumption in 1940 and 1941, it was not until 1942 (as explained in Section 2 (5) of this Chapter) that fundamental changes began to occur. As there explained, the years 1942, 1943 and 1944 produced temporary changes of a far-reaching character which, if permanent and stable, must have necessitated fundamental re-adjustments in the regimen and mass-units of the index. But the resultant changes in the index would have been so extensive as virtually to create a new index which would not have been continuously comparable with the "C" series index either as compiled pre-war nor as it is likely to be compiled in post-war years. Consideration of the matter led to the conclusions—

- (i) that it was desirable to continue the "C" series index substantially on its pre-war regimen in order to ensure continuity of comparison of price movements on a clearly defined basis;
- (ii) that it was impossible to reconstruct the "C" series index to take account of recurrent temporary departures from normal consumption.

§ 10. Retail Price Index-Numbers and Wage Variations.

Two distinct procedures are adopted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in fixing and varying basic or living wages as follows:—

- (i) the Court periodically *fixes* the amount of wage in the light of evidence submitted by parties appearing before it. Such evidence usually covers a wide range of facts as to economic conditions;
- (ii) having determined the amount of basic wage the Court further determines whether or not it shall be subject to automatic adjustment for changes in price level and, if so, by what method such *variation* shall be made. This again is decided in the light of evidence and of representations by the parties concerned.

The All Items ("C" series) retail price index is used by the Court to derive the "Court" series of retail price index-numbers upon which the basic or "needs" portion of the wages prescribed in awards is *varied* automatically for changes in price levels quarterly, half-yearly or yearly. These are commonly referred to as "cost of living adjustments" although in fact they relate only to that part of the *change in cost of living* which is due to variations in prices. The Court itself determines from time to time at public sittings the amount of the basic wage, having regard to evidence submitted in relation to other aspects of "cost of living" and other relevant considerations. In fixing the amount of the basic wage the Court does not have regard to either the regimen used in compiling the retail price index or the cost of such regimen. The regimen of the index would not be suited to such a purpose.

The considerations upon which the basic wage is fixed are set out in successive judgments of the Court and briefly summarised in Chapter III. (Section 3) of this Report. On this matter, reference should be made to the Basic Wage Judgments of the Court, particularly those of 1934, 1937 and 1941,* and to the general statement of principles set out in the judgment on the "Munition Workers' Case" of 1943† Certain State industrial tribunals use the index-numbers directly for automatic or quasi-automatic adjustment of the rates of wages determined by them as tribunals,

* 33 C.A.R., p. 144; 37 C.A.R., p. 583; 44 C.A.R., p. 41.

† 50 C.A.R., p. 191.

while some State tribunals have regard to the index-numbers and other factors in considering what "cost of living" variations they should make in rates of wages.

The use of index-numbers by industrial authorities for purposes of adjusting rates of wages for changes in price level is a practice of long standing, dating in the case of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court, for example, back to the year 1913. The tribunals form their own judgment as to relevance of the index-numbers to their purposes, and periodically hear the representatives of employers and employees on the issues involved, including questions as to whether the index is satisfactory for the purposes to which it is applied by the tribunal. In such proceedings the Statistician or his officers are called at times as witnesses on questions of fact and technical matters relating to the index-numbers.

The automatic adjustments in wages prescribed in awards of the Court on the basis of retail price index-numbers are sometimes referred to as "cost of living" adjustments and the index is popularly referred to as a "cost of living index". This at times creates misconceptions as to the nature of the retail price index since the term "cost of living" connotes not only change in cost of living due to changes in prices, but also changes in cost of living due to changes in standard of living. Beyond that, use of the term "cost of living" index sometimes creates the erroneous impression that the retail price index purports to embrace all that should be included in a desirable standard of living. As pointed out in the opening sections of this chapter, the "C" series index is a retail price index of specific meaning.

The following is a brief statement of the index-numbers used by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court from time to time:—

(i) "*A* Series.—The "A" series of indexes cover the items food and groceries and the rent of all houses, with the year 1911 as the base (1,000). This series was first compiled in 1912, and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911, and quarterly for 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to the June quarter of 1938, after which it was discontinued.

The Commonwealth Arbitration Court adopted this series in 1913 to determine the *relative* basic wage for towns throughout Australia, and to vary what is popularly known as the "Harvester" Basic Wage of 1907—the wage (42s. per week for Melbourne) declared by Mr. Justice Higgins to be sufficient to meet the "normal needs of the average employee, regarded as a human being, living in a civilized community." For this purpose the base index number (1,000) of the series was selected by the Court as equivalent to a basic wage of 48s. per week. This series had very little application after May, 1933, because of the adoption by the Court successively of the "D" series at that date, the "C" series in May, 1934, and the "Court" series in July, 1937.

(ii) "*B* Series.—The "B" series covers the items food and groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses, with the prices ruling in the years 1923–1927 as the base (1,000) and is actually the food and rent constituent of the "C" series described in (iii). This series was first compiled in 1925, and is available for the six capital cities for the years 1907 and 1911, and for the month of November of the years 1914 to 1920, and quarterly thereafter for the 30 important towns of Australia. It was designed to replace the "A" Series, but was never used in connexion with the adjustment of wages by Industrial Tribunals. This series appears on pages 26 to 30 of this Report.

(iii) "*C* Series.—The All Items ("C" series) covers food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; clothing (man, wife and three children);

household drapery, household utensils, fuel, lighting and other miscellaneous items, with the prices ruling in the years 1923-1927 as the base (1,000). The regimen is published in full in this chapter.

This series was constructed as the result of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage of 1920, and the regimen adopted was substantially that of the "Indicator" Lists of the Commission with periodical adjustments as explained in this chapter. It was first compiled in 1921 and is available for the month of November for the six capital cities for the years 1914 to 1921, quarterly for these cities from June quarter, 1922, and quarterly for the 30 important towns from March quarter, 1925 to date.

The series was not used in connexion with the variation of wages until its partial adoption by the Commonwealth Court in May, 1933, when that Court introduced the "D" series of indexes explained on the following page. In its judgment of 17th April, 1934, the Court adopted as from 1st May, 1934, the "C" series as the sole basis for the adjustment of the wages declared in the judgment, for which purpose the Court equated a "needs" basic wage of 81s. per week to the base index-number (1,000) of the series. In its judgment of 23rd June, 1937, the Commonwealth Court adopted this index as the basis of the "Court" series for the adjustment of the "needs" portion of the Court's new basic wage (see (iv)).

(iv) *The "Court" Series.*—The "Court" series of index-numbers was created by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in its basic wage judgment of 23rd June, 1937, and operated from 1st July, 1937. Its purpose was to provide a set of index-numbers which would be published by, and under the direct control of, the Court. It was created primarily for the purpose of removing conditions which tended to engender the impression that the Commonwealth Statistician was in some way responsible for the fixation and adjustment of wage-rates. Its introduction has the added advantage of enabling the index-numbers to be specially numbered in the manner most convenient for adjustment purposes, and of enabling the Statistician to change the base of his index-numbers without upsetting the wage and adjustment provisions of the Court's awards. It is at present based on the Commonwealth Statistician's "C" series index, and is obtained as follows:—The Court in 1937 decided to equate to the base index-number of the "C" series index (1,000) the "Court" series index-number 81.0, and as this was the weekly rate in shillings allotted in 1934 by the Court to this base index-number as its "needs" basic wage (see (iii) above), each "C" series index-point is thus equal to .081s. By the simple process of multiplying any "C" series index-number by this factor, therefore, the result to the first decimal place (*as it stands*) is the corresponding "Court" series index-number, which also expresses in shillings the amount of the "needs" basic wage as fixed by the Court for that index-number—with the proviso that any decimal point of .5 or more shall be regarded as the next higher number of shillings. To this wage is then added the relevant "constant" and other loadings granted by the Court to make up the total basic wage for the awards concerned. In the normal course the Court hears and decides issues raised as to the suitability of the index-numbers for the purposes to which it applies them. The "Court" series entirely supersedes the "C" series for all wage adjustments decreed by the Commonwealth Court. A set of index-numbers under this series is reproduced in Appendix III. of this Report, while a "Ready Reckoner" for the weekly "needs" basic wage equivalents of "C" series and "Court" series index-numbers is shown at the end of the following section (see page 38.)

(v) "*D*" Series.—The "*D*" series is a combination of the "*A*" and "*C*" series, and was introduced by the Commonwealth Court for the adjustment of wages of those employees who were subject to the full 10 per cent. reduction in real wages determined by the Court in January, 1931. It came into operation from 1st May, 1933.

The series has for its base the "*A*" series index for each town for the December quarter of 1929, which is varied according to the ratio of change indicated by the "*C*" series index-number for the whole of 1929 and the corresponding "*C*" index-number of the town for the quarter for which the adjustment is to be made. It will thus be seen that, whereas the "*D*" index for each town from the December quarter of 1929 fluctuated in the same way as the "*C*" index for the same town, the relationship of different towns was that of the "*A*" series for the December quarter of 1929, slightly modified by the difference in movement between the "*A*" series and the "*C*" series index for each town since that quarter.

This series was superseded by the judgment of the Court referred to under "*C*" series. The index-numbers of this series were published in Appendix VIII. of Labour Reports Nos. 24 to 27.

(vi) *Food and Groceries*.—The regimen of food and groceries is a component part of each of the series of retail price index-numbers mentioned above. Details of the regimen will be found on page 10. This index was first compiled in 1912 and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911 and monthly for the 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to date. An index computed from the prices of food and groceries only was for a time used for the adjustment of old-age and invalid pensions, and also for the adjustment of the wages of members of the North Australian Workers' Union above the 20th parallel. Both these adjustments were later effected by means of the "*C*" Series Index, but the provisions for the adjustment of pensions were repealed as from 6th April, 1944.

(vii) *The "200 Towns" Series*.—This series was tabulated for the month of November each year in respect of 200 of the more important towns of the Commonwealth. Up to November, 1936, it covered the cost of food and groceries combined with the rent of 4 and of 5-roomed houses respectively, but thereafter the tabulation was limited to food and groceries only. This table has been used mostly in discussions of suitable relative rates for country towns, but the index-numbers have not been directly employed by Industrial Tribunals in this connexion. The base of this table is the weighted average cost of food and groceries in the six capital cities in 1923-27 = 1,000. This series has been compiled for the month of November since 1913. It was originally confined to 100 towns, but was increased to 150 in 1915, and 200 in 1923. The tabulation of this index was discontinued after November, 1942 as a war-time economy. A reference to these index-numbers will be found on page 31.

§ 11. Scales used for Automatic Wage Adjustment.

The following table shows the automatic scales of quarterly, half-yearly or yearly adjustment adopted by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in its Basic Wage Judgments of 1934 and 1937 for the "needs" portion of its basic wage. From 1st May, 1934, to 30th June, 1937, the amount of wage shown constituted the basic wage payable exclusive of certain "loadings" legally regarded as part of the total basic wage.* But from 1st July, 1937, the amount of wage shown by the scale was designated by the Court the "needs" basic wage, and a "loading" (generally referred to as the "prosperity" loading) determined by the Court was added

* See first paragraph, p. 73.

to it. This is a "constant" (non-adjustable) loading, but at different rates according to locality and industry, and is fully described in Section 3 of Chapter III. of this Report. The method followed by the Court was to fix an amount of basic wage after hearing evidence and argument by representatives of employers and employees covering a wide range of relevant factors (primarily relating to "capacity of industry" to pay and general economic conditions), and then to determine an automatic adjustment scale.

Automatic Scales for Quarterly, Half-yearly or Yearly Adjustment of "Needs" Basic Wage.

(As adopted by Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, April, 1934, and June, 1937.)

* Basis—

- (a) "C" Series.—Index-number 1,000 = 81s. per week (1s. = 12.345679), or £211 per annum (£1 = 4.739336) (Operative 1st May, 1934).
 (b) "Court" Series.—"C" series index-number 1,000 = "Court" series index-number 81.0 (Operative 1st July, 1937).

Index-number Divisions.		Wage Per week ("Needs").	Index-number Divisions.		Wage Per week ("Needs").
"C" Series.	"Court" Series.		"C" Series	"Court" Series.	
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.
587-598 ..	47.5-48.4	2 8 0	933- 944 ..	75.5- 76.4	3 16 0
599-611 ..	48.5-49.4	2 9 0	945- 956 ..	76.5- 77.4	3 17 0
612-623 ..	49.5-50.4	2 10 0	957- 969 ..	77.5- 78.4	3 18 0
624-635 ..	50.5-51.4	2 11 0	970- 981 ..	78.5- 79.4	3 19 0
636-648 ..	51.5-52.4	2 12 0	982- 993 ..	79.5- 80.4	4 0 0
649-660 ..	52.5-53.4	2 13 0	994-1006 ..	80.5- 81.4	4 1 0
661-672 ..	53.5-54.4	2 14 0	1007-1018 ..	81.5- 82.4	4 2 0
673-685 ..	54.5-55.4	2 15 0	1019-1030 ..	82.5- 83.4	4 3 0
686-697 ..	55.5-56.4	2 16 0	1031-1043 ..	83.5- 84.4	4 4 0
698-709 ..	56.5-57.4	2 17 0	1044-1055 ..	84.5- 85.4	4 5 0
710-722 ..	57.5-58.4	2 18 0	1056-1067 ..	85.5- 86.4	4 6 0
723-734 ..	58.5-59.4	2 19 0	1068-1080 ..	86.5- 87.4	4 7 0
735-746 ..	59.5-60.4	3 0 0	1081-1092 ..	87.5- 88.4	4 8 0
747-759 ..	60.5-61.4	3 1 0	1093-1104 ..	88.5- 89.4	4 9 0
760-771 ..	61.5-62.4	3 2 0	1105-1117 ..	89.5- 90.4	4 10 0
772-783 ..	62.5-63.4	3 3 0	1118-1129 ..	90.5- 91.4	4 11 0
784-796 ..	63.5-64.4	3 4 0	1130-1141 ..	91.5- 92.4	4 12 0
797-808 ..	64.5-65.4	3 5 0	1142-1154 ..	92.5- 93.4	4 13 0
809-820 ..	65.5-66.4	3 6 0	1155-1166 ..	93.5- 94.4	4 14 0
821-833 ..	66.5-67.4	3 7 0	1167-1179 ..	94.5- 95.4	4 15 0
834-845 ..	67.5-68.4	3 8 0	1180-1191 ..	95.5- 96.4	4 16 0
846-858 ..	68.5-69.4	3 9 0	1192-1203 ..	96.5- 97.4	4 17 0
859-870 ..	69.5-70.4	3 10 0	1204-1216 ..	97.5- 98.4	4 18 0
871-882 ..	70.5-71.4	3 11 0	1217-1228 ..	98.5- 99.4	4 19 0
883-895 ..	71.5-72.4	3 12 0	1229-1240 ..	99.5-100.4	5 0 0
896-907 ..	72.5-73.4	3 13 0	1241-1253 ..	100.5-101.4	5 1 0
908-919 ..	73.5-74.4	3 14 0	1254-1265 ..	101.5-102.4	5 2 0
920-932 ..	74.5-75.4	3 15 0	1266-1277 ..	102.5-103.4	5 3 0

*Formulae for Construction of Tables—

(a) "C" Series.—Let N = number of shillings in wage per week. Then $12.345679 \times (N - .5) + 1$ gives the first, and $12.345679 \times (N + .5)$ gives the second of the pair of numbers in the index-number division for N shillings. Decimal fractions in result to be disregarded.

(b) "Court" Series.—Each "C" series index-number point = .081, and each of the first of the pair of index-number divisions for the "C" series in above table when multiplied by this factor gives to the first decimal place (as it stands) the first of the pair of index-number divisions for the "Court" series—from which the second of the pair becomes obvious. (NOTE.—All "Court" series index-numbers must be derived through their corresponding "C" series index-numbers.)

Both the amount of wage and the adjustment scale operate only until the Court otherwise determines, and representatives of employers and employees have the right to approach the Court for variation of the wage or for variation of the adjustment scale. Only the "needs" portion of the total basic wage is adjustable.

§ 12. International Comparisons : Retail Price Index-Numbers.

The tables giving index-numbers of retail prices for (i) cost of living, including articles other than food, and (ii) foodstuffs only, appearing in previous issues of this Report were discontinued for the duration of the war, owing partly to the need for economy, and partly to the information for many countries being no longer available. The figures, which were taken chiefly from the League of Nations *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, and the International Labour Office *Year Book of Labour Statistics*, are of course still obtainable in part from the publications mentioned.

CHAPTER II.—WHOLESALE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

§ 1. Melbourne Wholesale Price Index.

1. **General.**—The data on which this chapter is based relate almost entirely to wholesale prices in Melbourne. An index of Sydney wholesale prices is compiled by the Government Statistician of New South Wales, and published in the *Year Book* and the *Monthly Summary of Business Statistics* of that State.

The index of Melbourne wholesale prices was first computed in 1912, and has been continued on the same lines since that year. The items included in the (old) Melbourne wholesale price index comprise chiefly basic materials which in the form of raw material, food, or as a source of power, enter into production for home consumption. The purpose of the index, therefore, is to measure the changes in the prices of these particular materials rather than the changes in prices generally. As Australia does not, to any extent, manufacture from imported raw materials commodities for export, the local consumption appears to give the most appropriate weighting. Any lack of uniformity in the variations of the index-numbers for these wholesale prices and for retail prices would indicate broadly changes in the relation of manufacturing and distributing charges to the cost of basic materials.

The scope of this wholesale price index can best be understood by an examination of the list of commodities included which is given on page 40. This list is, to a large extent, comparable with that used in the compilation of the *Economist* and *Statist* index-numbers for Great Britain, but differs largely from that used for the wholesale price index-numbers of the United States (Bureau of Labour) or Canada (Department of Labour).

2. **The Grouping of the Commodities.**—The commodities are divided into eight groups, as set out on page 40. The descriptions of the groups are given in the following tables with the proportional cost of each group for the year 1944. These proportions cannot be used with any degree of accuracy to combine "group" index-numbers owing to the possible wide differences in the proportions compared with those for the *base period*. See paragraph following table on page 15.

Groups of Commodities.

Group.	Description.	Percentage of Aggregate Cost (1944).
I.	"Metals and Coal"	14
II.	"Wool, Cotton", also jute, leather, &c. ..	16
III.	"Agricultural Produce"	27
IV.	"Dairy Produce"	8
V.	"Groceries"	14
VI.	"Meat"	11
VII.	"Building materials" (mostly timber) ..	9
VIII.	"Chemicals" (excluding fertilizers) ..	1
		100

It will be noticed that the group "Chemicals" is practically negligible.

The index relates chiefly to basic materials, but a certain proportion of Australian manufacturing costs enters into all groups. The amount is small in Meat (VI.), Agricultural Produce (III.), and Wool, Cotton (II.), and greater in others, but the difference is not sufficient to justify any inference as to different changes of the price-level for manufactured goods and farm products. The number and weight of manufactured commodities included are too small to warrant deductions of this nature from any possible grouping.

Many of the commodities included are affected by the tariff. Wool, Cotton (II.), Agricultural Produce (III.), and Meat (VI.), are little affected, and Dairy Produce (IV.) not greatly, but in the other groups the tariff is a dominating influence.

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index : Commodities included, Units of Measurement, and "Mass-Units".

Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.	Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.
GROUP I. (Metals and Coal).				GROUP II. (Wool, Cotton, also Jute, Leather, &c.)			
Iron—				Branbags ..	..	Doz.	110
Pig ..	Mixed	Ton	6½	Cornsacks ..	..	"	250
Rod and Bar	Nos.	"	3½	Woolpacks ..	..	Each	200
Angle ..	Stafford	"	3½	Leather—			
Plate ..	"	"	3	Chrome Box	..	ft.	1,200
Hoop ..	"	"	½	Hide			
Galvanized ..	26 gauge	"	5	Rough Tanned	..	lb.	600
Fencing Wire ..	No. 8	Ton	6	—Split			
Tinned Plates ..	I.C. Coke	Box	60	Sole Leather—	..	"	600
Zinc, sheet ..	..	Ton	1	Factory			
Lead, sheet ..	..	"	½	Sides			
" pipes ..	..	"	½	Cotton ..	Raw ..	"	24,000
Copper, sheet ..	..	lb.	2,000	Wool ..	Greasy ..	"	12,200
Quicksilver ..	..	"	12	Twine ..	Reaper	"	150
Coal ..	Newcastle, on wharf	Ton	600		and Binder		
				Tallow ..	Mutton Prime	Ton	1½

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index: Commodities included, Units of Measurement, and "Mass-Units"—*continued.*

Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.	Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.
GROUP III. (Agricultural Produce).				GROUP V.— <i>continued.</i> (Groceries).			
Wheat ..	..	Bus.	500	Starch ..	Coleman's	lb.	100
Flour ..	..	Ton	48	Blue..	White	..	..
Bran ..	..	"	14	Matches ..	Keen's	"	50
Pollard ..	..	"	14	..	Australian	Gross	90
Oats ..	Milling..	Bus.	1,200	..	Safety	..	..
Oatmeal ..	Colonial	Ton	1½	Candles ..	Rangoon	lb.	1,600
Barley ..	English	Bus.	150	Tobacco ..	..	..	1,300
..	Cape ..	"	100	Kerosene ..	..	Gall.	1,700
Maize..	..	"	1,000	GROUP VI. (Meat).			
Hay ..	Best Mngr.	Ton	135	Beef ..	Average quality	100 lb.	390
Chaff ..	Prime ..	"	135	Mutton ..	"	lb.	33,000
Straw ..	Victorian	"	25	Lamb ..	"	"	5,600
Peas ..	..	Bus.	55	Veal ..	"	"	2,000
Potatoes ..	..	Ton	40	Pork ..	"	"	3,700
Malt ..	Victorian	Bus.	140	GROUP VII. (Building Materials).			
Onions ..	..	Ton	3	Timber—	Flooring—	100 ft. lin.	30
GROUP IV. (Dairy Produce).				..	6 x 1½	"	30
Ham ..	..	lb.	800	..	6 x 2	"	30
Bacon ..	..	"	3,200	..	6 x 2½	"	30
Cheese ..	..	"	1,500	..	6 x 3	"	30
Butter ..	Best Fresh	"	9,500	..	6 x 4	"	30
Lard ..	Bulk ..	Doz.	200	..	Weather-boards	"	200
Eggs ..	Ordinary	Doz.	1,800	..	Oregon	1,000 ft. sup.	2
Honey ..	..	lb.	600	..	Shelving	"	10
Beeswax ..	..	"	40	Cement ..	Portland	Cask	30
Condensed Milk	Bacchus Marsh	Doz. lb.	160	White Lead ..	..	Ton	2
GROUP V. (Groceries).				Slates ..	Welsh 20 x 10	1,000	½
Currants ..	..	lb.	1,400	GROUP VIII. (Chemicals).			
Raisins ..	Sultanas	"	1,400	Cream of Tartar	In kegs	lb.	400
Herrings ..	1-lb. fresh	Doz. 1-lb. tins	50	Bi-Carbonate of Soda	..	Ton	1
Salmon ..	1-lb. tall	"	50	Saltpetre ..	Refined	"	1-20
..	Alaska	"	..	Sulphur ..	..	"	..
Sardines ..	Halves	Doz. halves	100	Caustic Soda ..	..	cwt.	..
Tea ..	..	lb.	3,000	Alum ..	Lump ..	Ton	..
Coffee ..	Plantation	"	200	Potassium Cyanide	..	lb.	570
Cocoa ..	McKenzie's	"	100				
Sugar ..	No. 1A	Ton	22				
Macaroni ..	..	lb.	200				
Tapioca ..	..	cwt.	7				
Rice ..	..	Ton	2				
Salt ..	Australian fine	"	7				
..	Rock ..	"	1				
Mustard ..	Coleman's	Doz. 1-lb. tins	6				

3. Index-Numbers.—Index-numbers for each group of commodities, as well as for all groups combined, are shown in the following table:—

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index-Numbers, 1861 to 1944.

(Base of each Group: Year 1911 = 1,000.)

Year.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Wool, Cotton, Leather, &c.	III. Agricul- tural Pro- duce, &c.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Grocer- ies.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chemicals.	All Groups.
1861 ..	1,438	1,381	1,583	1,008	1,963	..	1,070	2,030	1,538
1871 ..	1,096	1,257	1,236	864	1,586	..	1,044	1,409	1,229
1881 ..	1,178	1,115	1,012	935	1,421	..	1,091	1,587	1,121
1891 ..	895	847	1,024	995	1,032	888	780	1,194	945
1901 ..	1,061	774	928	1,029	1,048	1,345	841	917	974
1902 ..	1,007	756	1,192	1,215	945	1,447	837	881	1,051
1903 ..	923	834	1,209	1,059	936	1,443	875	921	1,049
1904 ..	821	885	754	876	916	1,427	845	875	890
1905 ..	772	850	894	980	942	1,209	801	859	910
1906 ..	882	978	916	972	923	1,110	896	864	948
1907 ..	1,037	1,017	973	1,020	948	1,294	968	961	1,021
1908 ..	1,033	901	1,312	1,198	968	1,335	935	891	1,115
1909 ..	1,014	907	1,000	1,119	978	1,088	911	815	993
1910 ..	1,004	1,052	069	1,100	000	1,008	006	808	1,003
1911 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1912 ..	1,021	991	1,370	1,206	1,052	1,357	1,057	978	1,170
1913 ..	1,046	1,070	1,097	1,054	1,024	1,252	1,128	995	1,088
1914 ..	1,099	1,032	1,207	1,137	1,021	1,507	1,081	1,253	1,149
1915 ..	1,284	1,017	2,162	1,530	1,133	2,435	1,275	1,528	1,604
1916 ..	1,695	1,423	1,208	1,485	1,322	2,515	1,491	1,760	1,504
1917 ..	2,129	2,008	1,157	1,423	1,343	2,403	1,884	2,171	1,662
1918 ..	2,416	2,360	1,444	1,454	1,422	2,385	2,666	3,225	1,934
1919 ..	2,125	2,363	1,985	1,651	1,516	2,348	2,851	2,898	2,055
1920 ..	2,298	2,624	2,439	2,209	1,918	3,279	3,226	2,825	2,480
1921 ..	2,173	1,362	1,767	2,000	1,976	2,158	2,733	2,303	1,903
1922 ..	1,942	1,681	1,628	1,648	1,869	1,787	2,005	1,965	1,758
1923 ..	1,826	2,148	1,778	1,837	1,746	2,579	2,025	1,933	1,944
1924 ..	1,835	2,418	1,647	1,655	1,721	2,223	1,815	1,806	1,885
1925 ..	1,852	1,967	1,797	1,636	1,723	2,212	1,711	1,790	1,844
1926 ..	1,938	1,582	2,001	1,784	1,731	1,931	1,665	1,816	1,832
1927 ..	1,962	1,650	1,826	1,823	1,724	2,111	1,624	1,866	1,817
1928 ..	1,912	1,781	1,726	1,751	1,707	2,015	1,744	1,923	1,792
1929 ..	1,912	1,556	1,792	1,853	1,690	2,246	1,754	1,942	1,803
1930 ..	1,866	1,127	1,484	1,627	1,666	2,025	1,875	1,982	1,596
1931 ..	1,826	1,039	1,121	1,399	1,794	1,508	2,025	2,166	1,428
1932 ..	1,736	1,000	1,230	1,303	1,767	1,348	2,043	2,127	1,411
1933 ..	1,713	1,118	1,175	1,195	1,714	1,487	2,061	2,106	1,409
1934 ..	1,660	1,261	1,288	1,274	1,735	1,540	2,015	2,018	1,471
1935 ..	1,602	1,217	1,344	1,325	1,729	1,508	1,964	1,996	1,469
1936 ..	1,566	1,331	1,480	1,351	1,731	1,684	1,969	1,997	1,543
1937 ..	1,772	1,406	1,604	1,451	1,750	1,678	2,430	2,006	1,656
1938 ..	1,746	1,051	1,780	1,549	1,747	1,871	2,238	2,059	1,662
1939 ..	1,758	1,101	1,820	1,557	1,752	1,710	2,220	2,075	1,665
1940 ..	1,854	1,362	1,568	1,567	1,784	1,882	2,800	2,208	1,713
1941 ..	1,960	1,402	1,721	1,554	1,884	1,776	3,138	2,527	1,796
1942 ..	2,146	1,507	1,900	1,665	1,938	2,312	3,409	2,437	1,977
1943 ..	2,272	1,945	1,964	1,716	1,930	2,366	3,764	2,442	2,117
1944 ..	2,278	1,967	2,052	1,721	1,949	2,470	3,768	2,442	2,159

NOTE.—The figures given in this table are comparable in the vertical columns, but are not directly comparable horizontally.

4. **Variations since 1914.**—The variations in the index-numbers of the separate commodity groups for the years 1915 to 1944, are shown in the following table, taking July, 1914, as base (= 1,000) for each group:—

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index-Numbers.

(Base of each Group: July, 1914 = 1,000.)

Period.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Wool, Cotton, Leather, &c.	III. Agri- cultural Produce, &c.	IV. Dairy Pro- duce.	V. Gro- ceries.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chem- icals.	All Groups.
July, 1914 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Year 1915 ..	1,166	934	2,024	1,272	1,098	1,502	1,164	1,490	1,406
" 1916 ..	1,539	1,307	1,130	1,235	1,266	1,551	1,361	1,716	1,318
" 1917 ..	1,919	1,841	1,084	1,181	1,302	1,480	1,722	2,141	1,456
" 1918 ..	2,197	2,324	1,351	1,210	1,378	1,469	2,448	3,085	1,695
" 1919 ..	1,930	2,169	1,858	1,373	1,469	1,448	2,602	2,827	1,801
" 1920 ..	2,091	2,430	2,228	1,840	1,860	2,022	2,944	2,764	2,178
" 1921 ..	1,974	1,250	1,653	1,663	1,916	1,331	2,495	2,246	1,668
" 1922 ..	1,763	1,543	1,523	1,370	1,811	1,102	1,830	1,917	1,541
" 1923 ..	1,658	1,972	1,664	1,527	1,693	1,590	1,848	1,885	1,704
" 1924 ..	1,667	2,220	1,541	1,376	1,668	1,371	1,656	1,761	1,653
" 1925 ..	1,682	1,806	1,681	1,360	1,670	1,364	1,562	1,746	1,617
" 1926 ..	1,760	1,453	1,873	1,483	1,677	1,101	1,519	1,771	1,606
" 1927 ..	1,782	1,515	1,700	1,516	1,671	1,302	1,482	1,820	1,593
" 1928 ..	1,737	1,635	1,661	1,456	1,654	1,242	1,590	1,876	1,571
" 1929 ..	1,737	1,428	1,677	1,540	1,638	1,385	1,601	1,895	1,581
" 1930 ..	1,695	1,035	1,380	1,353	1,614	1,249	1,712	1,933	1,399
" 1931 ..	1,659	954	1,040	1,163	1,738	930	1,849	2,112	1,252
" 1932 ..	1,577	918	1,152	1,083	1,712	831	1,865	2,074	1,237
" 1933 ..	1,556	1,026	1,100	994	1,661	917	1,882	2,054	1,235
" 1934 ..	1,508	1,158	1,205	1,059	1,682	950	1,839	1,968	1,290
" 1935 ..	1,456	1,116	1,258	1,100	1,677	931	1,792	1,946	1,288
" 1936 ..	1,422	1,222	1,385	1,123	1,678	1,038	1,708	1,948	1,353
" 1937 ..	1,609	1,291	1,502	1,206	1,696	1,035	2,219	1,957	1,452
" 1938 ..	1,586	965	1,674	1,287	1,693	1,154	2,043	2,008	1,457
" 1939 ..	1,597	1,011	1,704	1,295	1,698	1,054	2,026	2,024	1,460
" 1940 ..	1,684	1,250	1,467	1,303	1,728	1,161	3,638	2,222	1,502
" 1941 ..	1,780	1,287	1,611	1,292	1,825	1,124	2,864	2,465	1,574
" 1942 ..	1,949	1,384	1,778	1,384	1,878	1,426	3,111	2,377	1,733
" 1943 ..	2,064	1,786	1,839	1,427	1,870	1,459	3,436	2,382	1,856
" 1944 ..	2,069	1,806	1,900	1,430	1,888	1,523	3,439	2,382	1,893

§ 2.—Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.

I. **General.**—As mentioned above, the Melbourne Wholesale Price Index was first computed in 1912. Neither the component items nor the weighting have been varied. Consequently the index is a measure of changes in wholesale price levels based on usages which have altered substantially since the period on which the weighting was determined. As such it is useful as an indication of long-term trends over the past 84 years which it covers, on the assumption that the relative importance of component items remained constant. But it no longer serves as a measure of price variations from month to month or from year to year of commodities weighted in accordance with present day consumption. Reference to the description of the index in § 1 above will indicate that animal fodders preponderate in the "Agricultural Produce" group, while "Building Materials" include little besides imported timber. In other groups, some principal items have increased in consumption while others have decreased. It was resolved, therefore, at the Conference of Statisticians at Brisbane in 1930 that the time had come to revise and extend the items included in order to bring the index into line with changed conditions. An investigation to that end was commenced, and in the course of the past few years, many new price-series have been collected on a monthly basis back to January, 1928. Some of these have been incorporated in a new index of the prices of basic materials and foodstuffs, preliminary index-numbers of which are

currently published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*. Others are being incorporated in a number of "special-purpose" indexes, which it is hoped to publish in the future. Their construction has been delayed in order to make use, for weighting purposes, of the larger amount of information which is now becoming available as the result of the collection of more extensive statistics of factory production. The price quotations have in the main been obtained directly from manufacturers and merchants, and, with a few important exceptions, from Melbourne sources. Apart from home-produced building materials, coal and one or two minor commodities, however, the price movements may be taken as representative of fluctuations in wholesale prices of basic materials in most Australian markets. The weighting system adopted is based on average annual consumption during the years 1928-29 to 1934-35 inclusive. In the meantime, however, the original index has been continued on existing lines, as set out in § 1 of this chapter.

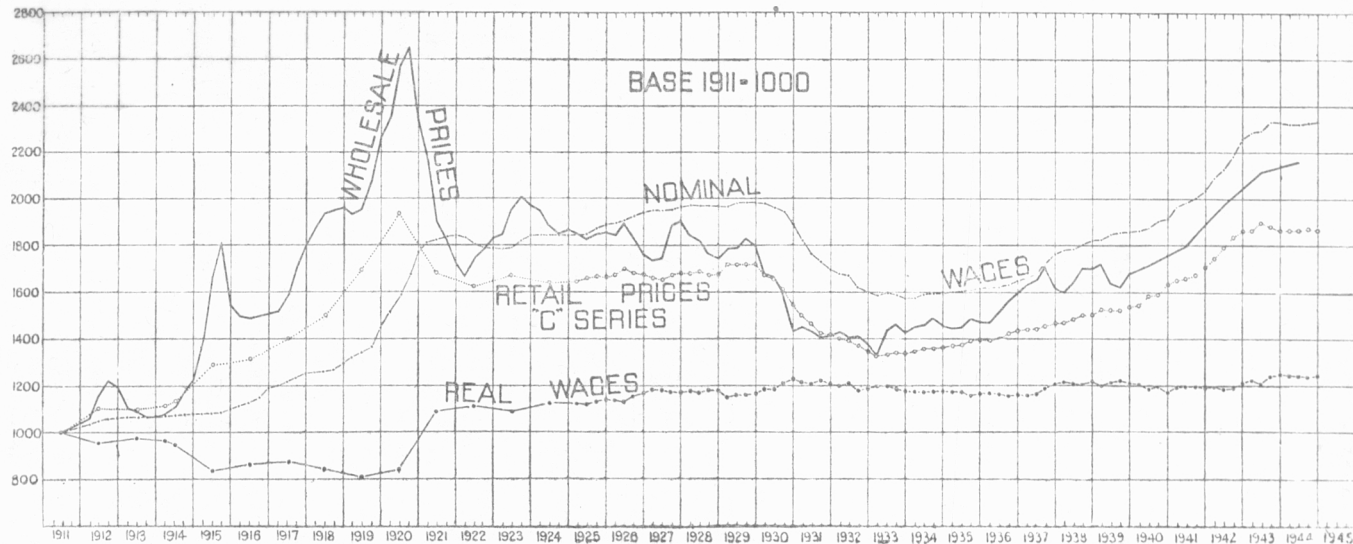
2. Index-Numbers.—Index-numbers for each group of commodities and for all groups combined for this new index of wholesale prices of basic materials and foodstuffs are given in the following table:—

Wholesale Price Index-Numbers—Basic Materials and Foodstuffs, 1928 to December, 1944.

(Base of each Group : Year 1928 = 1,000.)

Period.	Metals and Coal.	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Foodstuffs and Tobacco.	Goods principally Imported.	Goods principally Home Produced.	All Groups.
1928	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1930	954	1,082	612	955	548	998	951	1,053	917	951
1931	890	1,116	575	979	581	1,012	812	1,119	791	873
1932	827	1,069	539	981	530	984	792	1,082	762	842
1933	818	882	621	949	564	995	778	1,009	746	812
1934	785	816	664	885	601	979	808	989	752	811
1935	740	877	620	817	593	971	849	1,025	761	827
1936	725	909	761	815	724	984	906	1,045	807	867
1937	791	952	872	817	889	1,102	929	1,126	843	914
1938	801	949	607	831	664	1,041	960	1,094	852	911
1939	814	972	650	835	764	1,047	954	1,111	856	918
1940	836	1,230	776	969	934	1,269	998	1,339	901	1,008
1941	880	1,342	820	1,061	982	1,368	1,044	1,562	908	1,069
1942	968	1,509	934	1,163	1,037	1,540	1,187	1,804	1,007	1,202
1943	1,031	1,596	1,008	1,170	1,057	1,809	1,208	1,088	1,026	1,262
1944	1,030	1,599	1,082	1,178	1,057	1,832	1,224	1,996	1,035	1,271
1943—										
January ..	1,030	1,590	1,109	1,174	1,057	1,774	1,148	1,962	989	1,227
February ..	1,030	1,592	1,103	1,177	1,057	1,781	1,170	1,961	1,005	1,239
March ..	1,030	1,596	1,109	1,177	1,057	1,784	1,200	1,975	1,023	1,256
April ..	1,031	1,596	1,002	1,178	1,057	1,793	1,208	1,980	1,027	1,260
May ..	1,031	1,596	1,129	1,178	1,057	1,793	1,209	1,974	1,031	1,262
June ..	1,031	1,596	1,130	1,178	1,057	1,826	1,231	1,999	1,041	1,276
July ..	1,031	1,597	1,127	1,180	1,057	1,826	1,237	1,999	1,046	1,279
August ..	1,031	1,597	1,106	1,180	1,057	1,826	1,224	1,998	1,036	1,271
September ..	1,031	1,597	1,079	1,180	1,057	1,826	1,230	2,003	1,038	1,274
October ..	1,031	1,597	1,082	1,180	1,057	1,826	1,220	2,001	1,031	1,269
November ..	1,031	1,597	1,031	1,180	1,057	1,826	1,213	2,005	1,023	1,263
December ..	1,031	1,597	1,077	1,180	1,057	1,828	1,209	1,996	1,025	1,263
1944—										
January ..	1,031	1,599	1,070	1,180	1,057	1,828	1,213	2,003	1,026	1,265
February ..	1,031	1,599	1,070	1,180	1,057	1,828	1,204	1,989	1,024	1,260
March ..	1,031	1,599	1,070	1,178	1,057	1,832	1,206	1,993	1,024	1,261
April ..	1,031	1,599	1,070	1,178	1,057	1,832	1,222	2,008	1,030	1,270
May ..	1,031	1,599	1,070	1,178	1,057	1,832	1,224	1,992	1,037	1,271
June ..	1,030	1,599	1,082	1,178	1,057	1,832	1,239	1,995	1,047	1,279
July ..	1,030	1,599	1,086	1,178	1,057	1,833	1,244	1,994	1,051	1,282
August ..	1,030	1,599	1,107	1,178	1,057	1,833	1,238	1,991	1,049	1,280
September ..	1,030	1,599	1,095	1,178	1,057	1,833	1,224	1,988	1,039	1,272
October ..	1,030	1,599	1,093	1,178	1,057	1,833	1,221	1,996	1,035	1,270
November ..	1,031	1,599	1,088	1,178	1,057	1,833	1,222	2,007	1,032	1,271
December ..	1,028	1,599	1,088	1,178	1,057	1,833	1,223	2,010	1,031	1,271

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PRICES, NOMINAL AND EFFECTIVE OR REAL WAGE INDEX-NUMBERS.—AUSTRALIA, 1911 TO 1944.



EXPLANATION.—The index-numbers in the above graph are for the Six Capital Cities as a whole, with the exception of those for Wholesale Prices, which are for Melbourne. They are all calculated to the common base 1911 = 1,000, the scale for which appears on the left of the graph. They are shown *quarterly* from 1912 to 1930, and thereafter the annual average in the case of the Wholesale Prices (Melbourne). The "C" Series Retail Prices (food, groceries, rent of 4 and 5 rooms, clothing and miscellaneous household expenditure) are shown *quarterly* from 1925. For the period 1911-1914 the "C" Series are taken back from the true base (November, 1914 = 1,000) by means of the "A" Series Index (Food and Rent of All Houses). Nominal Wages are shown *quarterly* from 1914, and Real Wages *quarterly* from 1925. Real Wages are computed on the basis of the "C" Series.

CHAPTER III.—WAGES.

§ 1. Operations Under Arbitration and Wages Board Acts and Industrial Legislation.

1. **General.**—Particulars regarding operations under the Commonwealth and State Laws for the regulation of wages and hours and conditions of labour were first compiled for the year 1913, and reviews to the end of each annual period appear in previous issues of the Labour Report and in the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*.

2. **Laws Regulating Industrial Matters.**—The Laws in force regulating rates of wage, hours of labour, and working conditions generally in both Commonwealth and State jurisdictions are as follows :—

COMMONWEALTH.

Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904–1934.

National Security Act 1939–1940 and certain Regulations made thereunder.

Arbitration (Public Service) Act 1920–1934.

Industrial Board Ordinance, 1936–1940 (Australian Capital Territory).

STATES.

New South Wales .. Industrial Arbitration Act 1940–1943.

Victoria Factories and Shops Act 1928–1945.

Queensland Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1932–1945.

South Australia .. The Industrial Code 1920–1937.

Western Australia .. Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1941.

Tasmania Wages Board Act 1920–1945.

3. **Methods of Administration.**—(i) **COMMONWEALTH.**—The Commonwealth authority consists of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, consisting of a Chief Judge and four other Judges; Conciliation Commissioners not exceeding three in number; and Conciliation Committees* for particular industries. The Commonwealth Act provides that, where a State Award or Determination is inconsistent with an award issued by the Commonwealth Authority, the latter shall prevail. The Commonwealth Court can also restrain a State authority from proceeding in a matter already covered, or being dealt with, by the Commonwealth Authority. The Commonwealth Arbitration Court began to function in 1905.

The Regulations covered by Statutory Rules, 1940, No. 290, are to be construed as if their provisions were incorporated in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. They are designed to secure during the period of the war the prompt settlement of industrial disputes occurring or likely to occur to the detriment of the war effort. The Regulations considerably extend the powers of and facilitate the handling of disputes by the Court.

Wages, hours of labour and working conditions in the Commonwealth Public Service are regulated by the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator, under powers conferred by the Arbitration (Public Service) Act 1920–1934. The system of arbitration commenced to operate in 1912, cases being heard

* Held by the High Court in 1930 to be invalid.

by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, as part of the ordinary work of that Court. From 1920, however, the control was transferred to the Arbitrator, who was appointed by the Government for a term of seven years, and who need not necessarily have legal qualifications. No appeal lies against a determination of the Arbitrator, but the Government can move the Parliament to exercise its right of veto when the instrument is brought before it for ratification.

(ii) STATES—(a) *New South Wales*.—The controlling authority is the Industrial Commission of New South Wales consisting of six Judges. Subsidiary tribunals are the Conciliation Commissioner, the Apprenticeship Commissioner, Conciliation Committees, and Apprenticeship Councils constituted for particular industries. Each Conciliation Committee consists of the Conciliation Commissioner as chairman and equal representatives of employers and employees. The Apprenticeship Commissioner and the members of the Conciliation Committee for an industry constitute the Apprenticeship Council for the industry. These subsidiary tribunals may make awards binding on industries, but an appeal to the Industrial Commission may be made against any award. Compulsory control commenced in 1901, after the earlier Acts of 1892 and 1899 providing for voluntary submission of matters in dispute had proved abortive.

(b) *Victoria*.—The authority consists of Wages Boards for separate industries and a Court of Industrial Appeals, the latter presided over by a Judge of the County Court. The system was instituted in the State in 1896, and represents the first instance in Australia of legal regulation in this sphere.

(c) *Queensland*.—The authority is the Industrial Court, consisting of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two members appointed by the Governor in Council. Legal control was first instituted in 1907 with the passing of the Wages Board Act.

(d) *South Australia*.—The principal tribunal is called the Industrial Court; there are also Industrial Boards for the various industries, and a Board of Industry. The Court is composed of the President (a person eligible for appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court) who may be joined by two assessors who must be employed in the industry concerned. Deputy Presidents may also be appointed. The "Living Wage" is declared by the Board of Industry, composed of the President or Deputy President of the Industrial Court and four Commissioners. Legal control was first instituted in 1900.

(e) *Western Australia*.—The system of control comprises an Arbitration Court, Industrial Boards, Conciliation Committees and Commissioners. The Court consists of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two members. Legal control dates back to 1900.

(f) *Tasmania*.—The authority consists of Wages Boards for separate industries, comprising a Chairman, appointed by the Governor, and equal numbers of representatives of employers and workers, appointed by the Minister administering the Act. The system was instituted in 1910.

4. Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed.—The following table shows the number of awards and determinations made and industrial agreements filed, excluding variations, in each State and under the Commonwealth legislation dealing with these matters during each of the years 1940 to 1944.

Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed.

State, etc.	1940.		1941.		1942.		1943.		1944.	
	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.
New South Wales	70	22	65	49	72	23	24	11	36	10
Victoria	170	..	262	..	202	..	129	..	110	..
Queensland	34	45	53	16	27	29	17	35	14	29
South Australia	53	7	167	8	160	12	44	7	31	3
Western Australia	31	21	30	18	19	19	6	12	9	9
Tasmania	18	..	21	..	19	..	20	..	16	..
Commonwealth Court	25	13	7	3	52	20	43	17	45	13
Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator	1	..	5	..	4	..	3	..	4	..
Total	402	108	610	94	555	103	286	82	265	64

The figures in the above table exclude variations and interpretations of principal awards and agreements, of which a considerable number are made each year. Variations of Awards, Agreements, and Determinations made by the State and the Commonwealth Courts, Wages and Industrial Boards, and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator numbered 1,379 in 1944 compared with 2,586 in 1943, and were distributed as follows:—New South Wales, 544; Victoria, 325; Queensland, 194; South Australia, 28; Western Australia, 31; Tasmania, 16; Commonwealth Court, 216, and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator, 25.

The registration of industrial agreements is not provided for under the Victorian and Tasmanian Acts, but agreements filed under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act are in operation within those States.

5. Awards, Determinations, and Agreements in Force.—Considerable extension of the principle of the fixation of legal minimum and marginal rates of wages and of working conditions has taken place since 1913 when the tabulation of such statistics was first undertaken by the Bureau, and for a number of years the figures showing approximately the magnitude of these operations have been published in this Report. The difficulties in obtaining precise data, however, have been great, for reasons explained in part in the following paragraph, and it is not proposed to continue their publication.

With reference to the number of industrial awards and registered industrial agreements in force at the end of any period, awards and determinations made by both State and Commonwealth tribunals generally continue in force after the term of operation mentioned therein has expired, until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent order or award. Section 28 (2) of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that, after the expiration of the period specified, the award shall, unless the Court otherwise orders, continue in force until a new award has been made; provided that, where in pursuance of this sub-section an award has continued in force after the expiration of the period specified in the award, any award made by the Court for the settlement of a new industrial dispute between the parties may, if the Court so orders, be made retrospective to a date not earlier than the date upon which the Court first had cognizance of that dispute. In the Industrial Code of South Australia, Section 47 (2), and in

legislation for other States, similar provisions are in force. All industrial agreements continue in force after the expiration of the term mentioned until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent agreement or order. The Tasmanian Wages Board Act, 1934 repealed Part IV. of the Principal Act providing for industrial agreements and all such agreements ceased to operate from the commencement of the Act unless an agreement existed in a trade to which no determination of a Board was applicable, in which case the agreement remained in force until its expiry or until a determination was made.

6. New Legislation and Special Reports.—Information concerning the main provisions of the various Industrial Acts in force throughout Australia was given in earlier Reports, and brief reviews are furnished each year respecting new industrial legislation, as well as details respecting noteworthy pronouncements or procedure by industrial tribunals, and any special application or conditions of the terms of awards or determinations. In this Report, brief particulars are given regarding new industrial legislation during the years 1944 and 1945 and special reports and tribunals connected with industrial matters during the year 1944 :—

(i) *Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.*—The number of awards made by the Commonwealth Court during 1944 was 45, and 13 industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the Act. Eleven agreements and 205 awards were varied.

(ii) *New South Wales.*—During the year 1944 the number of Conciliation Committees established under the Industrial Act was 22, the number which expired, were dissolved or were no longer operative was 11, and at the end of the year 359 Committees were in force. In addition, 323 Industrial Boards constituted under the Act were in force, but no awards were issued by these Boards, the work previously performed by them being undertaken mainly by the Conciliation Committees. Principal awards made by the Industrial Commission numbered 23, by Conciliation Committees, 13, and by Apprenticeship Councils, nil. The number of variations made during the year was 539, of which 238 were made by the Industrial Commission, 139 by Conciliation Committees, and 162 by the Industrial Registrar. Ten agreements were filed and 5 variations of agreements made. At the end of the year principal awards in force numbered 643, and industrial agreements, 166.

Declarations of the Basic Wage made by the Industrial Commission will be found on page 85.

The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act No. 25 of 1943, provided for the appointment of not more than five Conciliation Commissioners.

(iii) *Victoria.*—Wages Boards made 110 determinations during the year, the number including determinations which were reviewed more than once during the twelve months. The number of variations issued during the year was 325.

An amendment (Act No. 446I of 1936) of the Factories and Shops Act provided *inter alia* for the incorporation in all determinations of Wages Boards, so far as they do not conflict with State law, of the provisions of Commonwealth Arbitration Court awards for corresponding industries.

The only legislation of industrial import passed during 1944 and 1945 was the Factories and Shops Act, No. 5083, 1945 dealing with holidays.

(iv) *Queensland*.—Fourteen industrial awards were made during the year, all of which were awards of the Industrial Court. Industrial agreements filed numbered 29, variations of awards 177, and variations of agreements, 17. At the end of the year, 278 awards and 173 industrial agreements were in force.

On page 87 will be found particulars of variations in the basic wage determined by the Industrial Court.

Industrial legislation passed in the years 1944 and 1945 comprised the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Acts Amendment Act, No. 4, 1944 and No. 14 of 1945, dealing respectively with preference in employment for returned men and with holiday pay, overtime, rates below award rates, &c.

(v) *South Australia*.—The Industrial Court made three awards during the year and 28 determinations were made by Industrial Boards. Three industrial agreements were filed. The number of awards, determinations and agreements varied by the Court or Industrial Boards was 28.

Particulars of variations in the "Living Wage" determined by the Board of Industry will be found on page 88.

No legislation of industrial interest has been passed since 1940.

(vi) *Western Australia*.—During the year the Industrial Court made 10 awards, but no awards were made by Industrial Boards. Nine industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the State Act during 1944. Twenty-seven awards and one industrial agreement were varied. At the end of the year there were 228 awards and 214 agreements in force.

Declarations of the basic wage made by the Industrial Court are referred to on page 89.

Industrial legislation passed since the year 1940 comprised the Industrial Arbitration Act No. 49 of 1941.

(vii) *Tasmania*.—During the year Wages Boards made 16 determinations, and varied 16 determinations.

At the end of the year 68 determinations were in force.

The only legislation of industrial interest passed in 1944 and 1945 was the Wages Board Act No. 48, 1945 dealing with holidays.

(viii) *Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator*.—During 1944 the Arbitrator made four new determinations and varied 25 existing determinations.

(ix) *Australian Capital Territory*.—The regulation of industrial matters in the Territory under a local Industrial Board commenced in the year 1922.

In accordance with the Industrial Board Ordinance 1936-1940 the Board now consists of a Chairman and four members and is constituted from time to time as follows:—

- (a) Where the matter for determination is one affecting Commonwealth employees and private employees—the Chairman and the four other members;

(b) Where the matter for determination is one affecting Commonwealth employees—the Chairman, the member representing the Commonwealth, the member representing the Commonwealth employees; and where the matter for determination is one affecting private employees—the Chairman, the member representing the private employers and the member representing the private employees; provided that where the matter for determination is—

- (i) the making of a common rule; or
- (ii) the determination or variation of the basic wage or standard hours of work;

the Chairman, may, at any stage of the proceedings, order that matter be referred to the full Board for determination.

Provision was originally made only for the regulation by the Industrial Board of the wages and working conditions of Government employees, and for those working on Government contracts. By an amending Ordinance, dated 9th April, 1936, workers in outside industry were similarly brought under the control of the Board and Determinations have since been made covering the majority of occupations in private enterprise.

Provision for the automatic adjustment of wages according to the retail price variations shown by the "A" Series Index-Numbers* was made in the Determination operative from 1st July, 1936. Adjustments in accordance with the variations of the "C" Series Index-Numbers starting with a newly-declared basic wage for an unskilled labourer of 95s. 6d. (which came into operation on 10th October, 1941) replaced those under the "A" Series as from 1st November, 1941, and quarterly thereafter. The latest rate payable is 105s. 6d. from 1st February, 1946.

§ 2. Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour.

1. **General.**—The collection of data respecting the nominal rates of wage payable in different callings and in occupations in various industries carried on in each State was first undertaken by this Bureau in the early part of the year 1913. Owing to the difficulty of ascertaining reliable particulars of the numbers of apprentices, improvers and other juvenile workers to whom progressive rates of wage fixed according to increasing age or experience were payable from year to year, the inquiry was confined to the rates of wage payable to adult workers only, and was further limited generally to those industries in operation within the metropolitan area of each State. In order to make the inquiry comprehensive, however, certain industries were included which were not carried on in the capital cities, e.g., mining, shipping, agriculture, and pastoral. The particulars acquired were obtained primarily from awards, determinations and industrial agreements under Commonwealth and State Acts, and related to the minimum wage prescribed. In cases where no award, determination or agreement was in force, the ruling union or predominant rate of wage was ascertained from employers and secretaries of trade unions. For convenience of comparison weekly rates of wage were adopted. In many instances, however, the wages were based on daily or hourly rates, since in many industries and occupations in which employment is casual or intermittent wages are so fixed; hence the average weekly earnings in such occupations will probably fall considerably short of the computed weekly rates. The information thus

* An "A" series index-number for Canberra was specially continued for the purposes of these adjustments.

obtained referred to the weekly rate of wage in upwards of 400 specific occupations. Rates of wage were not of course available for each of these occupations in every State but the aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 1,569 male occupations or callings. These particulars furnished the necessary data for the computation of average rates of wage in various industrial groups,* and in each State and Australia as a whole. The average rate of wage for each industrial group in each State was computed by taking the arithmetical average† of the rates of wage payable for all classified occupations within that group. It is not claimed that the results obtained by this method are precisely correct, but, owing to the difficulty in the past of obtaining satisfactory data as to the number of persons engaged in each of the occupations for which rates of wage had been obtained, no detailed system of weights could be applied. Though a considerable amount of information as to the number of persons engaged in different industries and occupations was available from subsequent Census results, it was found impracticable to bring the classification of these results into line with the detailed classification of occupations in the various industries as set out in the awards and determinations. For final results for each State and for each industrial group throughout the States, however, a careful system of weighting according to industrial groups was adopted. For example, in computing the result for any State in any year, the computed average wage in each industrial group was multiplied by a number (weight) representing the relative number of all male workers engaged in that group of industries in the particular State. The sum of the products thus obtained, divided by the sum of the weights, represents the average wage for that State for the particular year. The weights used for each industrial group in the computations of the average wage for male and female occupations have been published in issues of the Labour Report prior to No. 20 of 1929.

The results thus ascertained for the year 1913 were published in Labour Report No. 2, pp. 28-43. In the early part of the year 1914, the scope of the inquiry was considerably extended, and particulars included of the weekly rates of wage in respect of 930 specific occupations. The aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 4,256 adult occupations (3,948 male, and 308 female). The results obtained thereby to the 30th April, 1914, were published in Labour Report No. 5, pp. 44-50. These results were further analysed, and the average number of working hours which constituted a full week's work in each occupation was ascertained and weighted in a similar manner to the rates of wage. This course was adopted in order to overcome the difficulty of making comparisons between States of the rates of wage in any specified occupation, since, in many instances, a different number of working hours constituted a full week's work in different States. By dividing the weighted average number of working hours into the weighted average weekly rate of wage, a more satisfactory standard of comparison was ascertained. Results obtained from these computations were given for each industrial group for each State.

Since the 30th April, 1914, the number of occupations included in comparative computations has been kept constant, but the particulars of wages given in the Appendix (Sections IV. and V.) to this Report include all the more important occupations. In most instances these have been taken from awards or determinations made by industrial tribunals, from agreements registered under Commonwealth or State Acts, or were obtained by direct inquiry.

* The adopted classification of industries is shown on page iii.

† The sum of the weekly rates of wage divided by the number of occupations included.

To supplement the results thus obtained, investigations were made regarding rates of wage in past years with a view to showing their general trend in each State and in the several industrial groups. The total number of occupations for which particulars were available back to 1891 was 652.

The particulars given in this Chapter show variations in nominal wages from year to year in each State and in various industrial groups. Index-numbers are also given showing variations in effective wages in each State.

2. Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1914-1944.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers at the dates specified for a full week's work in each State and for Australia. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000):—

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
No. of Occupations included.	874	909	627	567	489	482	3,948

RATES OF WAGE.

	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
30th June, 1914	55	11	54	4	52	10	54	4	62	9	52	7	55	3
31st December, 1935	84	2	79	9	88	5	77	11	86	7	81	0	83	0
" " 1936	85	6	83	1	88	7	79	6	90	7	83	3	85	0
" " 1937	92	1	88	1	92	8	85	10	93	1	87	0	90	4
" " 1938	95	0	91	2	95	10	87	1	99	1	88	5	93	5
" " 1939	96	7	93	6	97	5	88	11	100	6	89	5	95	3
" " 1940	99	7	97	0	97	9	92	11	104	0	92	7	98	1
" " 1941	105	4	104	5	101	9	100	3	110	2	99	3	104	3
" " 1942	118	3	116	7	110	2	112	3	117	7	108	2	115	8
" " 1943	121	3	119	7	116	10	113	9	122	2	116	9	119	5
31st March, 1944	121	2	118	9	116	11	113	4	120	11	116	2	119	0
30th June, 1944	121	2	118	8	116	11	113	4	121	3	116	5	119	0
30th September, 1944	121	3	119	4	117	2	113	3	121	6	115	9	119	3
31st December, 1944	121	4	119	6	118	0	113	7	121	10	116	6	119	6

INDEX-NUMBERS.

(Base: Weighted Average Wage for Australia (51s. 3d.), 1911 = 1,000.)

	1,091	1,059	1,030	1,060	1,225	1,026	1,079
30th June, 1914	1,091	1,059	1,030	1,060	1,225	1,026	1,079
31st December, 1935	1,642	1,555	1,725	1,520	1,689	1,581	1,620
" " 1936	1,668	1,621	1,729	1,552	1,768	1,625	1,659
" " 1937	1,797	1,719	1,808	1,674	1,816	1,697	1,763
" " 1938	1,854	1,780	1,870	1,700	1,933	1,725	1,823
" " 1939	1,885	1,825	1,900	1,735	1,962	1,745	1,858
" " 1940	1,943	1,892	1,908	1,812	2,029	1,807	1,913
" " 1941	2,056	2,037	1,985	1,957	2,149	1,937	2,034
" " 1942	2,308	2,275	2,150	2,180	2,294	2,111	2,257
" " 1943	2,366	2,333	2,279	2,219	2,383	2,279	2,329
31st March, 1944	2,364	2,317	2,281	2,211	2,360	2,267	2,322
30th June, 1944	2,364	2,315	2,282	2,211	2,365	2,271	2,322
30th September, 1944	2,366	2,320	2,286	2,210	2,371	2,259	2,327
31st December, 1944	2,367	2,332	2,303	2,216	2,377	2,273	2,332

3. Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914-1944.—The following table shows for Australia (a) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups, and (b) the weighted average wage for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000):—

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-Numbers of Wage Rates in each Industrial Group.

Date.	INDUSTRIAL GROUP.														
	I. Wood, Furni- ture, etc.	II. Engineer- ing, etc.	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	V. Books, Printing, etc.	VI. Other Manu- factur- ing.	VII. Building.	VIII. Mining.	IX. Railways, etc.	X. Other Land Trans- port.	XI. Shipping, etc.(a)	XII. Agricul- tural, etc.(b)	XIII. Domestic, etc.(b)	XIV. Miscel- laneous.	All Industrial Groups.
RATES OF WAGE.															
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914 ..	59 2	57 2	55 2	52 10	63 9	55 8	65 4	64 11	59 8	51 1	48 7	49 5	47 0	53 10	55 3
31st December, 1937 ..	95 1	94 11	92 6	89 0	103 7	91 3	101 7	104 11	92 4	83 3	95 6	78 9	85 3	87 6	90 4
" " 1938 ..	98 2	97 8	95 2	91 9	112 0	91 4	104 6	108 2	95 5	91 7	97 6	82 3	88 3	90 5	93 5
" " 1939 ..	100 1	99 3	96 9	93 2	114 3	95 8	106 5	109 1	96 6	92 10	98 6	84 0	89 11	92 10	95 3
" " 1940 ..	102 11	102 5	99 3	95 4	116 0	99 0	109 11	111 10	100 3	96 3	102 6	85 8	93 0	96 3	98 1
" " 1941 ..	108 5	110 0	106 1	105 7	119 6	107 0	116 11	115 1	108 8	101 11	106 9	93 6	97 10	101 2	104 3
" " 1942 ..	118 2	118 11	114 3	116 10	131 4	116 4	127 3	123 9	118 9	110 3	119 9	111 8	107 5	111 1	115 8
31st March, 1943 ..	119 2	119 9	115 4	117 3	132 8	117 4	128 1	124 6	119 11	111 1	121 7	113 7	108 2	112 7	117 0
30th June, 1943 ..	119 10	120 0	115 8	118 10	134 1	117 5	128 3	125 0	120 5	111 2	121 7	114 4	108 6	113 0	117 5
30th September, 1943 ..	121 6	121 9	118 0	119 4	134 6	119 2	129 7	127 2	122 5	112 9	123 11	117 2	110 3	114 9	119 5
31st December, 1943 ..	121 0	121 1	117 8	119 7	135 4	118 8	128 11	126 6	121 9	112 0	122 10	118 11	109 8	114 3	119 5
31st March, 1944 ..	120 5	120 7	117 4	119 3	135 3	118 2	128 5	125 2	121 2	111 9	122 2	118 9	109 3	113 10	119 0
30th June, 1944 ..	120 9	120 7	117 5	118 8	134 3	118 3	128 6	126 5	121 2	111 9	122 2	118 8	109 6	113 10	119 0
30th September, 1944 ..	121 0	121 1	117 10	119 0	134 3	118 7	129 0	126 7	121 5	112 1	122 2	118 9	109 9	114 1	119 3
31st December, 1944 ..	121 1	121 2	118 0	119 0	134 8	118 8	129 1	126 11	121 10	112 1	122 2	119 4	109 9	114 5	119 6
INDEX-NUMBERS.															
(Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia (51s. 3d.), 1911 = 1,000.)															
30th June, 1914 ..	1,154	1,116	1,077	1,031	1,243	1,086	1,275	1,267	1,164	997	948	964	918	1,050	1,079
31st December, 1937 ..	1,855	1,852	1,805	1,737	2,119	1,780	1,982	2,046	1,802	1,722	1,863	1,537	1,663	1,707	1,763
" " 1938 ..	1,916	1,906	1,857	1,700	2,185	1,840	2,030	2,111	1,865	1,787	1,902	1,604	1,720	1,764	1,823
" " 1939 ..	1,953	1,936	1,888	1,817	2,229	1,867	2,076	2,142	1,884	1,812	1,922	1,639	1,755	1,811	1,858
" " 1940 ..	2,008	1,998	1,937	1,880	2,264	1,931	2,145	2,182	1,957	1,878	2,001	1,671	1,815	1,878	1,913
" " 1941 ..	2,116	2,147	2,071	2,060	2,332	2,088	2,282	2,245	2,121	1,989	2,082	1,825	1,908	1,974	2,034
" " 1942 ..	2,306	2,321	2,229	2,280	2,562	2,270	2,484	2,415	2,316	2,151	2,336	2,179	2,095	2,167	2,257
31st March, 1943 ..	2,325	2,336	2,251	2,288	2,589	2,289	2,500	2,430	2,340	2,167	2,373	2,216	2,111	2,197	2,283
30th June, 1943 ..	2,339	2,341	2,257	2,319	2,617	2,291	2,502	2,439	2,349	2,169	2,373	2,231	2,117	2,204	2,292
30th September, 1943 ..	2,371	2,376	2,303	2,329	2,624	2,326	2,528	2,481	2,388	2,199	2,417	2,286	2,152	2,240	2,331
31st December, 1943 ..	2,362	2,363	2,297	2,334	2,640	2,316	2,516	2,468	2,376	2,186	2,397	2,321	2,140	2,230	2,329
31st March, 1944 ..	2,350	2,353	2,289	2,327	2,639	2,305	2,505	2,462	2,364	2,181	2,383	2,318	2,131	2,221	2,322
30th June, 1944 ..	2,356	2,354	2,290	2,316	2,620	2,307	2,507	2,467	2,364	2,181	2,383	2,316	2,136	2,221	2,322
30th September, 1944 ..	2,361	2,363	2,300	2,321	2,620	2,313	2,516	2,471	2,370	2,187	2,383	2,317	2,142	2,227	2,327
31st December, 1944 ..	2,363	2,364	2,303	2,321	2,627	2,315	2,518	2,477	2,377	2,188	2,383	2,328	2,142	2,232	2,332

(a) Including the value of victualling and accommodation where supplied.

(b) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

4. **Adult Female Weekly Wages—States, 1914-1944.**—The index-numbers given in the preceding paragraphs for male adult workers were computed with the weighted average wage in 1911 as base (= 1,000). In the case of females, however, it has not been possible to secure information for years prior to 1914, and the index-numbers are therefore computed with the weighted average rate of wage payable to adult female workers in Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage payable to adult female workers for a full week's work in each State and Australia at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at the 30th April, 1914, as base (=1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
No. of Occupations included	85	87	37	47	24	28	308

RATES OF WAGE.

	<i>£.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>d.</i>
30th June, 1914 ..	26	9	27	4	27	0	24	1	37	4	25	10
31st December, 1935 ..	44	11	44	2	48	0	42	5	49	1	44	10
" " 1936 ..	45	7	46	10	48	4	43	4	50	11	45	1
" " 1937 ..	50	2	49	2	51	4	46	10	51	0	48	6
" " 1938 ..	51	10	50	7	53	6	47	9	54	4	49	8
" " 1939 ..	53	3	51	9	55	2	49	7	55	8	50	8
" " 1940 ..	54	9	53	5	56	0	52	1	57	6	53	1
" " 1941 ..	57	11	58	4	59	6	55	5	60	4	56	7
" " 1942 ..	63	10	64	11	66	4	60	3	64	2	61	3
" " 1943 ..	67	11	70	2	69	9	61	3	66	6	63	3
31st March, 1944 ..	70	2	73	0	73	5	65	6	65	9	66	9
30th June, 1944 ..	70	4	72	10	73	3	65	4	65	9	66	7
30th September, 1944 ..	71	3	73	11	73	4	65	4	65	10	66	8
31st December, 1944 ..	71	3	73	11	74	1	65	4	65	10	68	6

INDEX-NUMBERS.

(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (27s. 2d.), 30th April, 1914, = 1,000.)

30th June, 1914 ..	984	1,006	993	885	1,373	950	1,000
31st December, 1935 ..	1,654	1,626	1,767	1,561	1,808	1,651	1,655
" " 1936 ..	1,677	1,722	1,780	1,594	1,873	1,661	1,708
" " 1937 ..	1,848	1,810	1,889	1,724	1,877	1,785	1,828
" " 1938 ..	1,907	1,862	1,969	1,758	2,000	1,828	1,887
" " 1939 ..	1,960	1,906	2,031	1,826	2,049	1,866	1,938
" " 1940 ..	2,016	1,966	2,060	1,916	2,116	1,954	1,996
" " 1941 ..	2,133	2,118	2,191	2,038	2,220	2,082	2,141
" " 1942 ..	2,350	2,391	2,442	2,216	2,361	2,255	2,368
" " 1943 ..	2,501	2,582	2,568	2,253	2,446	2,329	2,516
31st March, 1944 ..	2,582	2,688	2,703	2,412	2,419	2,456	2,616
30th June, 1944 ..	2,588	2,682	2,697	2,406	2,419	2,450	2,614
30th September, 1944 ..	2,622	2,720	2,699	2,406	2,422	2,453	2,642
31st December, 1944 ..	2,622	2,722	2,725	2,406	2,422	2,520	2,647

5. Adult Female Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914-1944.—The following table shows for Australia (a) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups in which females are mainly employed, and (b) the weighted average rate for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Females, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates in Industrial Groups.

Date.	INDUSTRIAL GROUP.					
	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	I., II., V., and VI. All Other Manu- facturing.	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.(a)	XIV. Miscel- laneous.	All Groups.
RATES OF WAGE.						
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914	22 6	24 9	25 11	31 1	30 2	27 2
31st December, 1935 ..	42 1	44 2	44 8	46 3	46 5	45 0
" " 1936.. ..	43 1	44 9	45 8	47 1	50 9	46 5
" " 1937.. ..	45 7	48 1	49 4	51 1	53 0	49 8
" " 1938.. ..	47 1	49 9	50 6	52 11	54 6	51 3
" " 1939.. ..	48 9	50 9	51 11	54 5	56 8	52 8
" " 1940.. ..	50 0	52 6	53 8	55 10	57 11	54 3
" " 1941.. ..	53 5	57 4	58 0	58 9	60 7	58 2
" " 1942.. ..	59 8	63 11	64 7	63 4	67 1	64 4
31st March, 1943	60 4	64 1	65 2	63 10	68 9	64 11
30th June, 1943	60 8	65 8	65 6	64 4	69 11	66 1
30th September, 1943 ..	61 11	66 0	67 5	65 6	75 1	67 8
31st December, 1943.. ..	62 3	66 2	71 5	65 10	75 11	68 4
31st March, 1944	61 9	72 0	71 6	65 9	75 7	71 1
30th June, 1944	62 0	71 8	71 5	66 3	75 7	71 0
30th September, 1944 ..	62 5	72 9	71 9	66 11	75 10	71 9
31st December, 1944 ..	62 7	72 9	71 10	67 1	76 4	71 11

INDEX-NUMBERS.

(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (27s. 2d.), 30th April, 1914, = 1,000.)

	828	911	991	1,144	1,110	1,000
30th June, 1914	828	911	991	1,144	1,110	1,000
31st December, 1935 ..	1,549	1,625	1,645	1,701	1,708	1,655
" " 1936.. ..	1,585	1,646	1,680	1,734	1,867	1,708
" " 1937.. ..	1,677	1,770	1,815	1,880	1,952	1,828
" " 1938.. ..	1,732	1,831	1,859	1,947	2,004	1,887
" " 1939.. ..	1,795	1,869	1,910	2,003	2,085	1,938
" " 1940.. ..	1,841	1,932	1,975	2,056	2,132	1,996
" " 1941.. ..	1,967	2,110	2,134	2,163	2,229	2,141
" " 1942	2,195	2,354	2,378	2,332	2,468	2,368
31st March, 1943	2,220	2,360	2,398	2,350	2,531	2,391
30th June, 1943	2,233	2,416	2,411	2,368	2,575	2,431
30th September, 1943 ..	2,280	2,429	2,480	2,412	2,762	2,491
31st December, 1943 ..	2,291	2,435	2,629	2,424	2,794	2,516
31st March, 1944	2,274	2,659	2,631	2,421	2,782	2,616
30th June, 1944	2,283	2,639	2,628	2,438	2,782	2,614
30th September, 1944 ..	2,298	2,678	2,640	2,464	2,791	2,642
31st December, 1944 ..	2,304	2,678	2,643	2,470	2,809	2,647

(a) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

6. Hours of Labour and Hourly Rates of Wage, 31st December, 1944.—

(i) *General.*—The rates of wage referred to in the preceding paragraphs are the minima payable for a full week's work. The number of hours constituting a full week's work differs, however, in many instances, between various trades and occupations in each State, and between the same trades and occupations in the several States. To secure what may be for some

purposes a better comparison, the results in the preceding paragraphs are reduced to a common basis, namely, the rate of wage per hour in industrial groups in each State and in all States. In the Appendix (Sections IV. and V.) details are given of the number of hours worked per week in the various industries. The following tables include the average number of hours per week in industrial groups for each State.

The tables show (a) the average weekly wage; (b) the average number of working hours per week for a full week's work, and (c) the average hourly wage for adult male and female workers in each State and industrial group except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.). Many of the occupations included in the latter two groups are of a casual or seasonal nature, and the hours of labour are not generally regulated either by awards or determinations of industrial tribunals or in other ways. Hence the necessary definite particulars for the computation of average working hours and hourly rates of wages are not available.

(ii) *Adult Males*.—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers and the weekly hours of labour at 31st December, 1944:—

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1944.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (a)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	125/10	120/6	119/7	115/1	117/11	116/1	121/1
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	2/10½	2/8½	2/8½	2/7½	2/8½	2/7½	2/9
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	122/11	120/4	121/0	115/10	124/11	120/9	121/2
	Working Hours	44.00	41.00	44.00	44.11	44.00	44.00	44.01
	Hourly Wage	2/9½	2/8½	2/9	2/7½	2/10	2/9	2/9
III. Food, Drink, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	120/2	118/4	115/2	116/3	118/4	112/10	118/0
	Working Hours	44.00	44.04	43.44	44.00	44.13	44.00	43.91
	Hourly Wage	2/8½	2/8½	2/7½	2/7½	2/8½	2/6½	2/8½
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	117/5	118/9	123/6	123/6	119/5	114/8	119/0
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	2/8	2/8½	2/9½	2/9½	2/8½	2/7½	2/8½
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	135/7	137/2	125/7	128/1	145/8	128/6	134/8
	Working Hours	42.49	41.91	42.28	43.56	42.76	43.35	42.39
	Hourly Wage	3/2½	3/3½	2/11½	2/11½	3/4½	2/11½	3/2
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	Weekly Wage	120/6	118/2	115/3	115/11	118/4	118/3	118/8
	Working Hours	43.89	43.90	43.78	43.71	44.08	43.91	43.87
	Hourly Wage	2/9	2/8½	2/7½	2/7½	2/8½	2/8½	2/8½
VII. Building ..	Weekly Wage	132/9	132/3	120/2	119/0	125/11	123/0	129/1
	Working Hours	43.65	44.00	40.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	43.42
	Hourly Wage	3/0½	3/0	3/0	2/8½	2/10½	2/9½	2/11½
VIII. Mining(c) ..	Weekly Wage	128/4	122/0	128/7	94/0	1138/2	115/3	126/11
	Working Hours	40.70	40.47	40.93	43.79	40.50	41.33	40.80
	Hourly Wage	3/1½	3/0½	3/1½	2/1½	3/5	2/9½	3/1½
IX. Rail and Tram Services ..	Weekly Wage	124/3	123/4	120/2	114/11	119/0	112/9	121/10
	Working Hours	43.80	43.74	44.00	44.00	43.75	44.00	43.83
	Hourly Wage	2/10	2/9½	2/8½	2/7½	2/8½	2/6½	2/9½
X. Other Land Transport ..	Weekly Wage	114/6	111/4	110/6	106/7	116/4	105/8	112/1
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	2/7½	2/6½	2/6½	2/5	2/7½	2/4½	2/6½

(a) Weighted Average.

(b) Excludes District allowances in the gold-mining industry.

(c) Average rates of wage and hours prevailing at the principal mining centres in each State.

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups—continued.

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1944—continued.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (a)
XI. Shipping, etc.	Weekly Wage(b)	122/8	123/4	119/11	121/4	121/10	121/6	122/2
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	Weekly Wage(c)	119/5	118/2	120/8	117/10	117/10	122/6	119/4
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage(c)	111/9	112/6	105/8	102/8	107/1	102/0	109/9
	Working Hours	44.00	44.33	44.00	44.00	44.80	44.00	44.17
	Hourly Wage(c)	2/6½	2/6½	2/4½	2/4	2/4½	2/3½	2/5½
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	Weekly Wage	116/7	115/10	110/10	107/6	114/0	109/7	114/5
	Working Hours	44.00	44.67	44.00	44.65	44.00	43.77	44.26
	Hourly Wage	2/7½	2/7	2/6½	2/5	2/7	2/6	2/7
All Groups(a) ..	Weekly Wage	121/4	119/6	118/0	113/7	121/10	116/6	119/6
All Groups excepting XI. and XII.(a)	Weekly Wage	121/8	119/8	117/0	111/9	122/8	113/9	119/5
	Working Hours	43.50	43.01	43.18	44.21	43.16	43.39	43.61
	Hourly Wage	2/9½	2/8½	2/8½	2/6½	2/10	2/7½	2/8½

(a) Weighted average. (b) Average rates of wage are for occupations other than Masters, Officers, and Engineers in the Merchant Marine Service, and include value of victualling and accommodation where provided. (c) Includes the value of board and lodging, where supplied, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

(iii) *Adult Females.*—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers and the weekly hours of labour at 31st December, 1944:—

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates: Adult Females, Industrial Groups.

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1944.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (a)
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	61/5	65/0	59/9	55/9	53/11	64/9	62/7
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	1/4½	1/5½	1/4½	1/3½	1/2½	1/5½	1/5
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	Weekly Wage	72/0	73/2	75/3	75/3	63/6	71/10	72/9
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	1/7½	1/8	1/8½	1/8½	1/5½	1/7½	1/7½
I., II., V., & VI. All other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	70/2	75/2	65/0	65/3	..	60/3	71/10
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	43.77	..	44.00	43.99
	Hourly Wage	1/7½	1/8½	1/5½	1/6	..	1/4½	1/7½
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage(b)	65/4	71/7	68/7	55/8	68/6	63/5	67/1
	Working Hours	43.38	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	43.78
	Hourly Wage(b)	1/6	1/7½	1/6½	1/3½	1/6½	1/5½	1/6½
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.	Weekly Wage	77/0	79/6	81/10	55/8	..	..	76/4
	Working Hours	44.00	45.00	44.00	44.00	..	..	44.36
	Hourly Wage	1/9	1/9½	1/10½	1/3½	..	..	1/8½
All Groups(a) ..	Weekly Wage	71/3	73/11	74/1	65/4	65/10	68/6	71/11
	Working Hours	43.88	44.19	44.00	43.99	44.00	44.00	44.03
	Hourly Wage	1/7½	1/8	1/8½	1/5½	1/6	1/6½	1/7½

(a) Weighted average. (b) Includes the value of board and lodging, where supplied, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

7. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1891 to 1944.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers in each State from 1891 to 1944. The wages given in this table relate to the 31st December in each year. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia in 1911 as base (= 1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

State.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
RATES OF WAGE.													
N.S.Wales ..	44	1 43	11 51	5 56	2 94	0 102	11 95	0 96	7 99	7 105	4 118	3 121	3 121
Victoria ..	40	5 40	9 50	6 54	7 86	1 101	1 91	2 93	5 97	0 104	5 116	7 119	7 119
Queensland ..	46	6 46	2 51	1 53	5 91	6 101	2 95	10 97	5 97	9 101	9 110	2 116	10 118
S. Australia ..	41	7 42	0 51	11 54	5 82	8 97	0 87	1 88	11 92	11 100	3 112	3 113	9 113
W. Australia ..	52	4 53	11 59	0 62	10 85	9 100	7 99	1 100	6 104	0 110	2 117	7 122	2 121
Tasmania ..	38	6 36	10 41	0 52	8 85	9 94	8 88	5 89	5 92	7 99	3 108	2 116	9 116
Australia ..	43	5 43	5 51	3 55	7 89	10 101	2 93	5 95	3 98	1 104	3 115	8 119	5 119

INDEX-NUMBERS.

(Base : Weighted average for Australia (51s. 3d.) 1911 = 1,000.)

N.S. Wales ..	861	858	1,003	1,096	1,835	2,007	1,854	1,885	1,943	2,056	2,308	2,366	2,367
Victoria ..	789	796	985	1,065	1,679	1,972	1,780	1,823	1,892	2,037	2,275	2,333	2,332
Queensland ..	908	901	997	1,042	1,785	1,975	1,870	1,900	1,908	1,985	2,150	2,279	2,303
S. Australia ..	811	819	1,013	1,062	1,613	1,806	1,700	1,735	1,812	1,957	2,189	2,219	2,216
W. Australia ..	1,022	1,052	1,152	1,226	1,751	1,963	1,933	1,962	2,029	2,149	2,294	2,383	2,377
Tasmania ..	751	719	799	1,028	1,674	1,848	1,725	1,745	1,807	1,937	2,111	2,270	2,273
Australia ..	848	848	1,000	1,085	1,752	1,974	1,823	1,858	1,913	2,034	2,257	2,329	2,332

8. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1891 to 1944.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly wages payable in each industrial group in Australia. The wages relate to the 31st December in each year. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups in 1911 as base (= 1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

Industrial Group.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
RATES OF WAGE.													
I ..	52	5 52	3 57	8 59	6 95	1 104	10 98	2 100	1 102	11 108	5 118	2 121	0 121
II. ..	47	8 48	5 54	6 57	9 02	5 103	6 97	8 99	3 102	5 110	10 118	11 121	1 121
III. ..	38	2 44	7 50	9 55	8 80	3 106	10 95	2 96	9 99	3 106	11 114	3 117	8 118
IV. ..	36	8 36	3 30	5 33	0 86	5 99	6 91	9 93	2 96	4 105	7 116	10 119	7 119
V. ..	53	5 51	0 58	11 63	10 99	6 119	1 112	0 114	3 116	0 119	6 131	4 135	4 134
VI. ..	46	4 46	5 51	11 56	0 88	11 102	2 94	4 95	8 99	0 107	0 116	4 118	9 118
VII. ..	55	6 53	10 62	1 65	5 95	7 113	0 104	6 106	5 109	11 116	11 127	3 128	11 129
VIII. ..	58	1 54	8 61	2 65	2 103	10 110	7 108	2 109	1 111	10 115	11 123	9 126	6 126
IX. ..	50	10 52	4 57	0 59	8 93	1 105	2 95	5 96	6 100	3 108	8 118	9 121	10 121
X. ..	39	5 40	9 46	7 52	8 87	3 96	9 91	7 92	10 96	3 101	11 110	3 112	0 112
XI. ..	38	2 38	5 44	7 49	10 88	0 107	0 97	6 98	6 102	6 106	9 119	9 122	10 122
XII. ..	34	10 32	1 43	0 49	5 87	1 95	6 82	3 84	0 85	8 93	6 111	8 118	11 119
XIII. ..	32	10 30	8 45	5 47	11 80	6 92	6 88	3 89	11 93	0 97	10 107	5 109	8 109
XIV. ..	39	7 38	10 47	7 54	0 84	11 96	8 90	5 92	10 96	3 101	2 111	1 114	3 114
ALL GROUPS	43	5 43	5 51	3 55	7 89	10 101	2 93	5 95	3 98	1 104	3 115	8 119	5 119

RATES OF WAGE AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Males, Industrial Groups—continued.

Industrial Group.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
INDEX-NUMBERS.													
(Base : Weighted average for Australia (51s. 3d.) 1911 = 1,000.)													
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	1,023	1,016	1,125	1,161	1,855	2,046	1,916	1,953	2,008	2,116	2,306	2,362	2,363
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	931	945	1,064	1,127	1,803	2,019	1,906	1,936	1,998	2,147	2,321	2,361	2,364
III. Food, Drink, etc.	745	871	991	1,085	1,742	1,967	1,857	1,888	1,937	2,071	2,229	2,291	2,303
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	716	701	981	1,034	1,687	1,942	1,790	1,817	1,880	2,060	2,280	2,331	2,321
V. Books, Printing, etc.	1,043	998	1,149	1,246	1,941	2,323	2,185	2,229	2,264	2,332	2,562	2,604	2,627
VI. Other Manufacturing	904	907	1,013	1,093	1,736	1,994	1,840	1,867	1,931	2,088	2,270	2,311	2,315
VII. Building	986	1,050	1,213	1,276	1,865	2,205	2,039	2,076	2,145	2,282	2,484	2,511	2,518
VIII. Mining	1,134	1,067	1,194	1,272	2,026	2,157	2,111	2,142	2,182	2,245	2,415	2,468	2,477
IX. Rail and Tram Services	992	1,021	1,113	1,165	1,816	2,052	1,862	1,884	1,957	2,121	2,316	2,371	2,377
X. Other Land Transport	772	795	910	1,020	1,702	1,888	1,787	1,812	1,878	1,989	2,151	2,181	2,188
XI. Shipping, etc.	745	751	871	972	1,716	2,087	1,902	1,922	2,001	2,082	2,336	2,391	2,383
XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.	680	627	839	965	1,699	1,863	1,604	1,639	1,671	1,825	2,179	2,321	2,328
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	641	598	887	935	1,571	1,804	1,722	1,755	1,815	1,908	2,095	2,144	2,142
XIV. Miscellaneous	773	759	929	1,054	1,656	1,886	1,764	1,811	1,878	1,974	2,167	2,236	2,232
All Groups	848	848	1,000	1,085	1,752	1,974	1,823	1,858	1,913	2,034	2,257	2,322	2,332

9. Adult Male Hourly Wages—States, 1914-1944.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (=1,000).

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, States. (a)

NOTE.—The rates of wage per hour are shown to the nearest farthing.

Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
RATES OF WAGE.							
30th April, 1914 ..	s. d. 1 2	s. d. 1 1½	s. d. 1 1½	s. d. 1 1½	s. d. 1 4½	s. d. 1 1	s. d. 1 2
31st December, 1921	2 1½	2 0½	2 2	1 10½	2 1	1 11½	2 0½
" " 1929	2 4	2 2½	2 4	2 1½	2 2½	2 0½	2 3
" " 1933	1 11	1 8	2 0½	1 7½	1 10	1 8½	1 9½
" " 1934	1 11½	1 8½	2 0½	1 7½	1 10½	1 8½	1 10½
" " 1935	1 11½	1 9	2 1	1 8½	1 11½	1 9½	1 10½
" " 1936	2 0½	1 10	2 1	1 9	2 0½	1 9½	1 11½
" " 1937	2 2½	1 11½	2 2½	1 10½	2 1½	1 11	2 0½
" " 1938	2 3	2 0½	2 3	1 10½	2 3½	1 11½	2 1½
" " 1939	2 3½	2 1½	2 3½	1 11½	2 4	2 0	2 2½
" " 1940	2 4½	2 2½	2 3½	2 1	2 5	2 1½	2 3½
" " 1941	2 5½	2 5	2 5½	2 3½	2 7½	2 3	2 5½
" " 1942	2 8½	2 8½	2 7½	2 6	2 9½	2 6½	2 8
" " 1943	2 9½	2 8½	2 8½	2 6½	2 10½	2 7½	2 8½
" " 1944	2 9½	2 8½	2 8½	2 6½	2 10	2 7½	2 8½

(a) Weighted average hourly rates of wage for all industrial groups excepting Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII.

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, States—continued.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (13.96d.) 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)							
30th April, 1914 ..	998	980	963	991	1,170	933	1,000
31st December, 1921	1,817	1,741	1,865	1,637	1,796	1,675	1,779
" " 1929	2,011	1,895	2,001	1,808	1,923	1,751	1,940
" " 1933	1,655	1,438	1,775	1,372	1,571	1,463	1,567
" " 1934	1,676	1,484	1,782	1,410	1,624	1,494	1,594
" " 1935	1,703	1,496	1,782	1,476	1,689	1,519	1,623
" " 1936	1,731	1,567	1,787	1,500	1,776	1,552	1,670
" " 1937	1,878	1,676	1,875	1,602	1,804	1,643	1,779
" " 1938	1,935	1,741	1,934	1,638	1,968	1,671	1,840
" " 1939	1,963	1,834	1,979	1,692	2,001	1,717	1,903
" " 1940	2,038	1,920	1,986	1,796	2,080	1,805	1,973
" " 1941	2,138	2,071	2,092	1,956	2,240	1,938	2,098
" " 1942	2,339	2,302	2,232	2,153	2,381	2,165	2,295
" " 1943	2,401	2,342	2,307	2,183	2,448	2,260	2,352
" " 1944	2,405	2,343	2,329	2,173	2,443	2,254	2,355

10. Adult Female Hourly Wages—States, 1914 to 1944.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (= 1,000).

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States.

NOTE.—The rates of wage per hour are shown to the nearest farthing.

Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
RATES OF WAGE.							
30th April, 1914 ..	s. d. 0 6½	s. d. 0 6½	s. d. 0 6½	s. d. 0 5¾	s. d. 0 9½	s. d. 0 6	s. d. 0 6½
31st December, 1921	I 1	I 0½	I 1¼	I 1¼	I 2¼	I 0	I 0½
" " 1929	I 2½	I 2½	I 3	I 1½	I 3½	I 2	I 2½
" " 1933	0 11¾	0 11½	I 0¾	0 10¾	I 0¾	0 11½	0 11½
" " 1934	I 0	0 11½	I 1	0 11	I 1	0 11½	I 0
" " 1935	I 0½	0 11½	I 1	0 11½	I 1	0 11½	I 0
" " 1936	I 0½	I 0½	I 1¼	0 11¼	I 1½	I 0	I 0½
" " 1937	I 1¼	I 1½	I 2	I 0¾	I 1½	I 0¾	I 1½
" " 1938	I 2½	I 1½	I 2½	I 0¾	I 2½	I 1½	I 1½
" " 1939	I 2½	I 2	I 3	I 1	I 2¾	I 1½	I 2½
" " 1940	I 3	I 2½	I 3½	I 1¾	I 3¾	I 2½	I 2½
" " 1941	I 3¾	I 3¾	I 4½	I 3	I 4½	I 3½	I 3½
" " 1942	I 5½	I 5¾	I 6	I 4½	I 5½	I 4¾	I 5½
" " 1943	I 6½	I 7	I 7	I 4¾	I 6½	I 5½	I 6½
" " 1944	I 7½	I 8	I 8½	I 5¾	I 6	I 6¾	I 7½

RATES OF WAGE AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Females. States—continued.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (6.64d.), 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)							
30th April, 1914 ..	980	1,021	976	881	1,386	920	1,000
31st December, 1921	1,965	1,878	1,989	1,770	2,215	1,794	1,923
" " 1929	2,218	2,154	2,252	2,015	2,333	2,108	2,182
" " 1933	1,776	1,700	1,919	1,611	1,916	1,691	1,752
" " 1934	1,819	1,738	1,956	1,699	1,947	1,730	1,797
" " 1935	1,848	1,758	1,971	1,721	1,947	1,759	1,818
" " 1936	1,875	1,883	1,985	1,700	2,018	1,803	1,881
" " 1937	2,066	1,985	2,107	1,839	1,990	1,938	2,017
" " 1938	2,134	2,050	2,196	1,878	2,164	1,991	2,084
" " 1939	2,193	2,107	2,267	1,952	2,217	2,032	2,145
" " 1940	2,256	2,184	2,298	2,069	2,361	2,181	2,220
" " 1941	2,387	2,387	2,444	2,274	2,477	2,324	2,387
" " 1942	2,630	2,657	2,726	2,473	2,636	2,517	2,642
" " 1943	2,798	2,869	2,866	2,514	2,730	2,599	2,806
" " 1944	2,934	3,024	3,042	2,685	2,703	2,813	2,952

II. Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Males, States.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (excluding overtime) in a full working week for adult male workers in each State and Australia at 30th April, 1914, and at 31st December, 1921 to 1944. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime): Adult Males, States.(a)

Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
HOURS OF LABOUR.							
30th April, 1914 ..	49.42	48.80	48.78	48.60	47.78	48.62	48.93
31st December, 1921	45.66	46.95	45.52	47.07	46.24	46.84	46.22
" " 1929	44.14	46.83	43.96	46.83	45.58	47.09	45.34
" " 1933	44.23	46.82	44.00	46.83	45.51	46.77	45.36
" " 1934	44.23	46.82	44.00	46.83	45.51	46.77	45.36
" " 1935	44.18	46.69	43.69	46.63	45.48	46.75	45.26
" " 1936	44.08	46.41	43.69	46.55	45.30	46.33	45.09
" " 1937	44.07	46.22	43.68	46.57	45.25	46.24	45.03
" " 1938	44.01	45.75	43.67	46.31	44.34	46.00	44.82
" " 1939	43.92	44.61	43.46	45.83	44.33	45.33	44.29
" " 1940	43.70	44.28	43.46	45.23	44.09	44.92	44.04
" " 1941	43.68	44.12	43.43	44.49	43.13	44.42	43.83
" " 1942	43.52	43.94	43.32	44.25	43.11	43.51	43.65
" " 1943	43.52	43.94	43.18	44.21	43.11	43.37	43.62
" " 1944	43.50	43.91	43.18	44.21	43.11	43.39	43.61

(a) Weighted average working hours per week for all industrial groups excepting Groups XI. (Shipping), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII.

Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime): Adult Males, States—continued.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
(Base: Weighted Average for Australia (48.93), 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)							
30th April, 1914 ..	1,010	997	997	993	976	994	1,000
31st December, 1921	933	960	930	902	945	957	945
" " 1929	902	957	898	957	932	962	927
" " 1933	904	957	899	957	930	956	927
" " 1934	904	957	899	957	930	956	927
" " 1935	903	954	893	953	929	955	925
" " 1936	901	948	893	951	926	947	922
" " 1937	901	945	893	952	925	945	920
" " 1938	899	935	893	946	906	940	916
" " 1939	898	912	888	937	906	926	905
" " 1940	893	905	888	924	901	918	900
" " 1941	893	902	888	909	881	908	896
" " 1942	889	898	885	904	881	889	892
" " 1943	886	898	882	904	882	886	891
" " 1944	889	897	882	904	882	887	891

12. Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Females, States.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (excluding overtime) in a full working week for adult female workers in each State and Australia at 30th April, 1914, and at 31st December, 1921 to 1944. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime): Adult Females, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
HOURS OF LABOUR.							
30th April, 1914 ..	49.34	48.54	49.32	49.33	48.69	50.76	49.08
31st December, 1921	45.06	46.04	45.66	46.10	45.97	47.86	45.69
" " 1929	43.93	45.40	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.79
" " 1933	43.93	45.44	44.03	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.81
" " 1934	43.93	45.44	44.03	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.81
" " 1935	43.93	45.44	44.03	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.81
" " 1936	43.93	44.94	44.03	46.03	45.57	45.24	44.60
" " 1937	43.92	44.76	44.03	46.02	45.57	45.24	44.52
" " 1938	43.88	44.03	44.03	45.96	45.38	45.10	44.44
" " 1939	43.88	44.42	44.01	45.96	45.38	45.10	44.36
" " 1940	43.88	44.19	44.01	45.47	44.00	44.00	44.15
" " 1941	43.88	44.19	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.03
" " 1942	43.88	44.19	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.03
" " 1943	43.88	44.19	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.03
" " 1944	43.88	44.19	44.00	43.99	44.00	44.00	44.03

Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime) : Adult Females, States—*continued*.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
(Base : Weighted average for Australia (49.08) 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)							
30th April, 1914 ..	1,005	989	1,005	1,005	992	1,034	1,000
31st December, 1921	918	938	930	939	937	975	931
" " 1929	895	925	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1933	895	926	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1934	895	926	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1935	895	926	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1936	895	916	897	938	928	922	909
" " 1937	895	912	897	938	928	922	907
" " 1938	894	909	897	936	925	919	905
" " 1939	894	905	897	936	925	919	904
" " 1940	894	900	897	926	896	896	900
" " 1941	894	900	896	896	896	896	897
" " 1942	894	900	896	896	896	896	897
" " 1943	894	900	896	896	896	896	897
" " 1944	894	900	896	896	896	896	897

13. **Nominal and Effective Wages.**—(i) *General.* Wages are said to be *nominal* when they represent the actual amounts of money received in return for labour, and are described as *effective* or *real* when expressed in terms of their equivalent purchasing power, that is, their purchasing power over some definite composite unit or regimen the cost of which can be ascertained at different times. The relation between *nominal* and *effective* or *real* wages was discussed at some length in Labour Report No. 6, and was also referred to in Labour Report No. 11.

Since it is possible to measure purchasing power over more than one composite unit or regimen it is equally possible to convert any given nominal wage series into more than one series of effective or real wages. Prior to 1936 it was the practice of the Bureau to compute effective wage index-numbers by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series). While wage-rates were generally varied on the basis of the "A" series index-numbers there was a good deal to be said for this procedure. When the Commonwealth Court abandoned the "A" series, the merits of the "C" series of retail price index-numbers for "deflating" nominal wage rates were strengthened. The "C" series covers food, groceries, rent of four and five-roomed houses, clothing and miscellaneous household requirements. As the computation of the "A" series index by this Bureau was discontinued after the June quarter, 1938, real wages to the end of 1937 are measured in terms of their purchasing power over both the "A" series regimen and the "C" series regimen* in the following tables and over the "C" series only for the subsequent years.

(ii) *Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States, 1901 to 1944.*—The following table shows for the period 1901 to 1944 the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage in each State, the weighted average rate for Australia in 1911 being taken as the base (= 1,000). The index-numbers for 1901 and 1911 are based on rates current at the end of December, annual averages not being available. For 1914 and subsequent years, however, the index-numbers have been computed from the average of the rates current at the end of each quarter.

* For explanation of "A" and "C" series, see pages 35 and 36.

Nominal Wage Index-Numbers: Adult Males, States.

(Base : Weighted Average Weekly Wage for Australia, 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1929.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
N.S.Wales ..	858	1,003	1,093	1,862	2,012	1,654	1,723	1,829	1,874	1,920	2,024	2,210	2,357	2,365
Victoria ..	796	985	1,062	1,803	1,964	1,583	1,665	1,755	1,808	1,865	1,984	2,172	2,330	2,323
Queensland ..	901	997	1,035	1,879	1,976	1,728	1,774	1,854	1,885	1,903	1,981	2,091	2,207	2,288
S. Australia ..	819	1,013	1,061	1,697	1,891	1,533	1,608	1,688	1,725	1,764	1,897	2,065	2,212	2,212
W. Australia ..	1,052	1,152	1,223	1,832	1,960	1,730	1,790	1,876	1,956	1,999	2,106	2,215	2,349	2,368
Tasmania ..	719	799	1,027	1,745	1,840	1,610	1,656	1,718	1,738	1,787	1,895	2,057	2,196	2,268
Australia ..	848	1,000	1,081	1,826	1,972	1,638	1,707	1,799	1,846	1,889	1,997	2,164	2,309	2,326

(iii) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States—1901–1944.*—In obtaining the effective wage index-numbers in the following tables the nominal wage index-numbers shown above have been divided by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the capital city and multiplied by 1,000.

The index-numbers for 1901 and 1911 which are based on nominal rates of wage current at the end of December may be taken as substantially accurate since the movement in wages during the course of any one year prior to 1914 was comparatively slight.

Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work) : Measured in terms of purchasing power over the "A" series regimen.

(Base : Weighted average real wage in Australia in 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
N.S.Wales ..	961	973	906	1,079	1,089	1,050	1,107	1,160	1,150	1,138	1,101	1,095	1,090	1,107
Victoria ..	915	1,037	961	1,038	1,120	1,084	1,158	1,162	1,126	1,139	1,114	1,092	1,075	1,099
Queensland ..	1,172	1,000	1,038	1,244	1,236	1,220	1,317	1,345	1,376	1,417	1,377	1,323	1,261	1,237
S. Australia ..	948	957	920	1,027	1,089	1,067	1,166	1,178	1,133	1,152	1,144	1,149	1,143	1,151
W. Australia ..	1,024	1,023	1,070	1,139	1,156	1,143	1,229	1,232	1,212	1,246	1,221	1,260	1,251	1,253
Tasmania ..	827	838	942	977	1,099	1,064	1,111	1,104	1,067	1,094	1,086	1,099	1,094	1,088
Australia	964	1,000	948	1,076	1,115	1,082	1,152	1,185	1,168	1,178	1,148	1,135	1,121	1,133

Since the "C" series index-numbers were not compiled for periods prior to November, 1914, it has been assumed for the purpose of the following table that fluctuations between 1911 (the base of the table) and 1914 in the "C" series would have been similar to the fluctuations observed in the "A" series.

Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work) : Measured in terms of purchasing power over the "C" series regimen.

(Base : Weighted average real wage in Australia in 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1928.	1929.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
N.S.Wales	925	1,073	1,159	1,130	1,150	1,168	1,207	1,207	1,187	1,187	1,204	1,234	1,247
Victoria	954	1,084	1,188	1,164	1,131	1,155	1,180	1,180	1,167	1,187	1,190	1,233	1,234
Queensland	1,022	1,227	1,296	1,290	1,296	1,277	1,311	1,306	1,264	1,240	1,221	1,241	1,288
S. Australia	914	1,034	1,106	1,099	1,101	1,128	1,146	1,147	1,136	1,158	1,159	1,209	1,214
W. Australia	1,043	1,096	1,155	1,152	1,210	1,242	1,281	1,308	1,293	1,279	1,259	1,282	1,292
Tasmania	902	984	1,123	1,108	1,128	1,141	1,167	1,153	1,139	1,142	1,150	1,184	1,237
Australia ..	1,000	948	1,087	1,172	1,151	1,162	1,178	1,209	1,211	1,190	1,194	1,196	1,231	1,246

In the above tables the *effective* wage index-numbers are computed to the one base, that of Australia for 1911. As the index-numbers are comparable in all respects, comparisons may be made as to the increase or decrease in the *effective* wage index-number for any State over any period of years.

(iv) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, Australia—1901-1944.* In the following table similar index-numbers are given for Australia as a whole under both the "A" and "C" series. These are obtained by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers for Australia for the year concerned by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the six capital cities and multiplying by 1,000.

Nominal and Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work). (a)
(Base: Weighted average real wage in Australia in 1911 = 1,000.)

Year.	Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers.	Retail Price Index-numbers.		Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers, i.e., relative purchasing power over regimen of—	
		"A" Series (Food, Groceries and Rent of All Houses).	"C" Series (All Items).	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
1901..	848	880	..	964	..
1910..	955	970	..	985	..
1911..	1,000	1,000	(1,000)	1,000	(1,000)
1912..	1,051	1,101	..	955	..
1913..	1,076	1,104	..	975	..
1914..	1,081	1,140	1,140	948	948
1915..	1,092	1,278	1,297	854	842
1916..	1,144	1,324	1,319	864	867
1917..	1,226	1,318	1,406	930	872
1918..	1,270	1,362	1,501	932	846
1919..	1,370	1,510	1,695	907	808
1920..	1,627	1,785	1,935	911	841
1921..	1,826	1,697	1,680	1,076	1,087
1922..	1,801	1,600	1,619	1,126	1,112
1923..	1,805	1,700	1,664	1,062	1,085
1924..	1,840	1,681	1,637	1,095	1,124
1925..	1,861	1,722	1,654	1,081	1,125
1926..	1,914	1,786	1,677	1,072	1,141
1927..	1,946	1,766	1,662	1,102	1,171
1928..	1,963	1,760	1,675	1,115	1,172
1929..	1,972	1,822	1,713	1,082	1,151
1930..	1,939	1,683	1,618	1,152	1,198
1931..	1,752	1,479	1,448	1,185	1,210
1932..	1,639	1,403	1,377	1,168	1,190
1933..	1,584	1,345	1,335	1,178	1,187
1934..	1,590	1,385	1,355	1,148	1,173
1935..	1,612	1,420	1,380	1,135	1,169
1936..	1,638	1,461	1,409	1,121	1,162
1937..	1,707	1,507	1,448	1,133	1,178
1938..	1,799	(b)	1,488	(b)	1,209
1939..	1,846	(b)	1,526	(b)	1,211
1940..	1,889	(b)	1,588	(b)	1,190
1941..	1,997	(b)	1,673	(b)	1,194
1942..	2,164	(b)	1,809	(b)	1,196
1943..	2,309	(b)	1,876	(b)	1,231
1944..	2,326	(b)	1,867	(b)	1,246

(a) As to the effect in abnormal periods, see page 20 of Labour Report No. 6. (b) Not available.

NOTE.—For years prior to 1914 the nominal wage index-numbers relate to the end of the year only but from 1914 onward these figures, in addition to those for retail prices, are averages for the whole year.

The *effective* or *real* wage in 1901 under the "A" series was 3.6 per cent. less than in 1911. During the period 1912 to 1920, while wages increased steadily, prices increased at a greater rate, with the result that the purchasing power of wages under both the "A" and the "C" series was less in each of these years than in 1911. The first occasion on which the *effective* wage was higher than in 1911 was in the year 1921.

In 1937, the last complete year for which both "A" and "C" series of retail price index-numbers are available, the *effective* wage was 13.1 per cent. higher than in 1911 under the "A" series and 17.7 per cent. under the "C" series.

As retail prices fell slightly in 1944, while nominal wages rose, the *effective* wage index-number rose from 1,231 to 1,246 under the "C" series.

14. Productive Activity.—The preceding tables show the movement in *real* (or *effective*) wages, i.e., wages measured in series of retail purchasing power. A parallel problem is the measure of productivity, i.e., the quantity of production (irrespective of prices) in relation to population or persons engaged in production.

The following table shows the total recorded value of production valued as in the principal markets as ascertained from various sources during the years specified :—

Estimated Gross Value of Australian Production.
(Recorded Industries.)

Year.	Agricultural.	Pastoral.	Dairy, Poultry and Bee Farming.	Forestry and Fisheries.	Mining.	Manufacturing. (a)	Total.
	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
1906 ..	25,349	45,389	13,611	4,879	26,643	31,172	147,043
1911 ..	38,774	52,729	20,154	5,868	23,303	47,531	188,359
1913 ..	46,162	63,146	21,682	6,626	25,594	57,674	220,884
1914 ..	36,052	67,085	22,504	6,853	22,054	59,004	213,552
1916 ..	61,255	83,054	27,931	6,062	23,192	60,502	261,996
1920-21 ..	112,801	90,641	52,613	11,136	21,675	101,778	390,644
1921-22 ..	81,890	75,054	44,417	10,519	20,029	112,517	344,426
1922-23 ..	84,183	97,127	43,542	11,124	20,281	123,188	379,445
1923-24 ..	81,166	110,216	42,112	11,866	22,184	132,732	400,276
1924-25 ..	107,163	127,301	45,190	12,357	24,592	137,977	454,580
1925-26 ..	89,267	113,556	48,278	12,784	24,529	143,256	431,670
1926-27 ..	98,295	111,716	46,980	12,790	23,939	153,634	447,354
1927-28 ..	84,328	124,554	50,261	12,181	23,015	158,562	452,901
1928-29 ..	89,440	116,733	50,717	11,617	19,539	159,759	447,805
1929-30 ..	77,109	84,563	49,398	11,371	17,912	149,184	389,537
1930-31 ..	70,500	69,499	43,067	8,313	15,361	112,966	319,706
1931-32 ..	74,489	61,540	41,478	7,703	13,352	106,456	305,018
1932-33 ..	75,562	64,851	39,622	8,470	15,583	114,136	318,224
1933-34 ..	70,731	95,613	40,306	9,605	17,608	123,355	357,218
1934-35 ..	68,587	74,556	44,763	10,856	19,949	137,638	356,349
1935-36 ..	75,388	91,286	47,533	11,424	23,248	155,891	404,770
1936-37 ..	91,403	105,499	49,886	11,765	27,381	170,811	456,745
1937-38 ..	93,229	100,794	57,641	14,755	32,434	188,061	486,914
1938-39 ..	76,851	84,805	60,404	14,634	32,463	195,746	464,993
1939-40 ..	95,784	104,972	62,070	15,347	36,839	212,488	527,500
1940-41(b)	70,406	110,959	62,629	17,179	40,003	248,751	549,927
1941-42(b)	94,778	120,000	64,731	18,671	41,257	306,426	645,863
1942-43(b)	111,535	133,246	73,644	19,392	38,462	341,106	717,385
1943-44(b)	112,860	137,906	77,450	18,105	33,741	355,223	735,375

(a) Value added in process of manufacture.

(b) Subject to revision.

In the absence of a satisfactory measure of the total *quantity* of recorded production, the retail price index-numbers have been applied to the value of production, in the same manner as they have been applied to nominal wages, to measure their relative purchasing power. The results may be taken to indicate the purchasing power in retail prices of the things produced and for convenience will hereafter be called *real* production. Owing to the discontinuance in 1938 of the "A" series retail price index-number it is not now possible to continue the measurement on the basis of this series.

Two tables are given:—The first (I.) shows *real* production *per head of population*, but any deductions therefrom must take into account the following considerations. The production considered is material production only, and takes no account of services. As civilization advances, material production becomes less important relative to services, and a smaller proportion of the population is engaged in such production. For example, the use of the motor car, the cinema and wireless is comparatively recent, and in connexion therewith a much larger number of people is employed in services than in material production. It follows, therefore, that material production per head of population will not measure accurately the progress of productive efficiency, but will tend to give too low a value. Unemployment, of course, would also depress it.

A better measure is given by *real* production *per person engaged* in material production. The second table (II.) attempts to give this. The result will give a better measure of productive efficiency, but will not take into account the effect of unemployment, though the index may be somewhat depressed by short time and rationing.

The two tables tell different stories. Before unemployment became severe in 1930, *real* production per head (as shown in the last column of the first table) had remained substantially steady with minor fluctuations since 1906. Whatever gain had been made in productive efficiency had been largely counterbalanced by the gradual change over from production of goods to production of services. Coincident with the heavy increase in unemployment between the years 1930 and 1933, the maximum being reached in 1932, the index-number fell sharply from its normal level of about 100 to 78 in 1930-31. This would imply a fall in average *real* income of nearly one-fourth from the normal level taking unemployment into account. Apart from a slight recession in 1934-35 due to a drop in wool values the index-number rose continuously from 1931-32 onwards; the pre-depression level was reached in 1935-36 and the peak of 1924-25 was exceeded in 1937-38. This upward movement was interrupted in 1938-39 and 1940-41 but recovered to a new high level in 1941-42 and continued in 1942-43 and 1943-44. During the latter year, the rise in prices in all branches of primary production except gold coincided with a greater quantity output in all branches of production except mining, and with increased activity in manufacturing. As the retail price index showed little change compared with the previous year the *real* production per head of population rose by 1.3 per cent. to a peak higher than any previously attained.

The index-number of *real* production per person engaged (as given in the last column of the second table (II.)) shows on the other hand, an appreciable upward tendency. It rose steeply during the 1914-1919 War,

as might have been expected, fell somewhat after the war, and recovered again. In 1929-30 the fall was substantial, due partly to the lag in the fall of retail prices. The index-number increased during the next four years to 126, only to fall again in 1934-35 with the fall in wool prices during that year. During the following four pre-war years a fall was recorded for one year only (1938-39). During the war-years up to and including 1943-44 increases were recorded except in 1940-41. The index-number of 147 for 1943-44 represents a record high level, and an increase of over 18 per cent. compared with 1938-39. This figure for *real* production per person engaged implies a high *real* wage for *those in employment*, and is consistent with available information concerning rate of *effective* or *real* wages, which has maintained in recent years the high level reached in the years 1927 to 1929.

I.—Production per Head of Population.

Year.	Gross Value of Material Production.			Retail Price Index-Numbers (a) 1911=1,000.		Real Production per head of population (1911=100) measured in purchasing power over regimen of—	
	Total.	Per head of population.		"A" Series.	"C" Series.	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
		Actual.	Index-Number. 1911=100				
	£'000.	£					
1906 ..	147,043	35.9	87	902	..	97	..
1911 ..	188,359	41.2	100	1,000	(1,000)	100	100
1913 ..	220,884	45.1	110	1,104	..	99	..
1914 ..	213,552	43.0	104	1,140	1,140	92	92
1916 ..	261,996	53.3	129	1,324	1,319	98	98
1919-20..	343,697	64.9	158	1,624	1,695	97	93
1920-21..	390,644	72.2	175	1,821	1,935	96	91
1921-22..	344,426	62.5	152	1,600	1,680	95	90
1922-23..	379,445	67.4	163	1,642	1,619	100	101
1923-24..	400,276	69.6	169	1,714	1,664	99	102
1924-25..	454,580	77.3	188	1,690	1,637	111	115
1925-26..	431,670	72.0	175	1,766	1,673	99	104
1926-27..	447,354	73.1	178	1,763	1,663	101	107
1927-28..	452,901	72.5	176	1,776	1,676	99	105
1928-29..	447,805	70.5	171	1,785	1,693	96	101
1929-30..	389,537	60.6	147	1,783	1,688	83	87
1930-31..	319,706	49.2	120	1,574	1,528	76	78
1931-32..	305,018	46.5	113	1,432	1,406	79	80
1932-33..	318,224	48.2	117	1,358	1,344	86	87
1933-34..	357,218	53.7	130	1,365	1,344	96	97
1934-35..	356,349	53.2	129	1,399	1,366	92	95
1935-36..	404,770	60.0	146	1,437	1,392	101	105
1936-37..	456,745	67.1	163	1,489	1,431	110	114
1937-38..	486,914	70.9	172	1,530	1,467	112	117
1938-39..	464,993	67.1	163	(b)	1,512	(b)	108
1939-40..	527,500	75.4	183	(b)	1,545	(b)	119
1940-41..	549,927	78.4	190	(b)	1,634	(b)	117
1941-42..	645,863	90.1	219	(b)	1,730	(b)	126
1942-43..	717,385	99.7	242	(b)	1,864	(b)	130
1943-44..	735,375	101.2	246	(b)	1,868	(b)	132

(a) For explanation of "A" and "C" series, see pages 35 and 36.

(b) Not available.

II.—Production per Person Engaged.

Year.	Number engaged in Material Production. (a)	Value of Material Production per person engaged in Production. (a)		Real Production per person engaged (1911=100) measured in retail purchasing power over regimen of—(b)	
		Actual.	Index-Number. 1911=100.	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
	'000.	£			
1906..	659	223	87	96	..
1911..	728	257	100	100	100
1913..	756	290	113	102	..
1914..	733	289	113	99	99
1916..	685	381	148	112	112
1920-21	760	510	199	109	103
1921-22	775	441	172	107	102
1922-23	793	475	185	113	114
1923-24	810	491	191	111	115
1924-25	826	547	213	126	130
1925-26	831	515	201	114	120
1926-27	841	527	205	116	123
1927-28	838	536	209	118	125
1928-29	830	536	209	117	123
1929-30	803	482	187	105	110
1930-31	728	431	168	108	112
1931-32	741	411	160	112	114
1932-33	781	407	158	117	118
1933-34	815	437	170	125	126
1934-35	862	412	160	115	117
1935-36	901	448	174	121	125
1936-37	930	491	191	128	134
1937-38	961	504	196	128	134
1938-39	962	481	187	(c)	124
1939-40	979	536	209	(c)	135
1940-41	1,016	538	210	(c)	128
1941-42	1,029	624	243	(c)	140
1942-43	1,023	697	271	(c)	146
1943-44	1,042	706	275	(c)	147

(a) Vide following explanatory remarks. (b) Derived through Retail Price indexes shown in previous table. For explanation of "A" and "C" series, see pages 35 and 36. (c) Not available.

The data for the preceding table are not complete. The numbers engaged in timber-getting are not accurately known, so that the value of production on this account, and the corresponding persons engaged, are both left out of account. Further, the information about women engaged in primary production is unsatisfactory, so that males alone are counted in primary industries. In manufacturing, the numbers are converted into equivalent male workers on the basis of relative wages for male and female workers. The column headed "number engaged" is, therefore, rather an index than the absolute number of individuals occupied in material production, but as an index, it should be accurate enough to give a satisfactory index of production per person engaged.

§ 3. The Basic Wage and Child Endowment in Australia.

I. The Basic Wage.—(i) *General*.—The "basic" wage is determined by industrial tribunals in Australia operating under Commonwealth and State Arbitration Acts. In the industrial legislation of New South Wales*,

* See p. 85 for modification of provision.

Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia, provision is made for the tribunals appointed under the Acts to determine the basic rates of wage to be paid to adult unskilled workers. In Tasmania provision for the declaration of a basic rate of wage is not included in the industrial Acts in force. The Wages Board system operates in this State, and each Wages Board determines the rate of wage to be paid to the unskilled worker when the determination for an industry or calling is under review. In Victoria, however, the same Wages Board system exists, but by amendments of the Factories Act, operative from 17th October, 1934 (*vide* p. 86), Wages Boards are obliged to adopt the same rates as those determined by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for similar industries.

As the power of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court is limited by the Commonwealth Constitution to the settlement, by conciliation and arbitration, of industrial disputes extending beyond the limits of any one State, no similar provision is to be found in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. In practice, the Court does declare a Commonwealth basic wage and uses the wage so declared as a basis for all awards made by it in the exercise of its jurisdiction. That is, upon a new basic wage being declared, the awards made in the settlement of all inter-State industrial disputes are re-opened and amended accordingly.

(ii) *Acts in Force*.—The acts in force providing for the determination of a "basic" wage are as follows:—

- (a) New South Wales—Industrial Arbitration Act 1940-1943.
- (b) Victoria—Factories and Shops Act, 1928-1945.
- (c) Queensland—Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1932-1945.
- (d) South Australia—The Industrial Code 1920-1937.
- (e) Western Australia—Industrial Arbitration Act 1912-1941.

2. **The Commonwealth Basic Wage.**—(i) *General*.—The doctrine of a basic wage was propounded as far back as 1890 by Sir Samuel Griffith, Premier of Queensland, and the same principle was enunciated in the New South Wales Arbitration Court in somewhat similar terms by Mr. Justice Heydon in 1905. In spite of these pronouncements, however, and of the fact that wage-fixing tribunals had been in operation as early as 1896 (in the State of Victoria), it was not until the year 1907 that the first basic wage, as such, was declared by a Court in Australia. This declaration was made by Mr. Justice Higgins, President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and is popularly known as the "Harvester Judgment" by reason of its having been determined in connexion with H. V. McKay's Sunshine Harvester Works.* The rate declared in this case was 7s. per day or £2 2s. per week for Melbourne, the amount considered reasonable for "a family of about five†", and was generally referred to as

* 2 C.A.R., pp. 1-38.

† The average number of dependent children per family was apparently regarded by the Court as about three, although statistical information available at the time did not permit of exact figures being ascertained. The 1911 Census disclosed, however, that the average issue of husbands aged 35-39 in the wage and salary earning group (excluding unemployed) was 3.00 children of all ages, and some such figure was probably in the mind of the Court. The only figures available from the 1921 Census for dependent children under 14 years for the wage and salary earning group (including unemployed) were—per male householder, 1.55, and an estimate per adult male of 1.0. The average numbers of dependent children under sixteen years for the wage and salary earning group (including unemployed) at the 1933 Census were as follows—per adult married male, 1.45, and per adult male, 0.91. The following are the estimated numbers of dependent children under fourteen years for the same group—per adult married male, 1.27, and per adult male, 0.80. See however, page 76 for Court's interpretation in 1940 Basic Wage Inquiry of the real basis of this wage.

the "Harvester" wage. According to a rough allocation by the Judge, the constituent parts of this amount were £1 5s. 5d. for food, 7s. for rent, and 9s. 7d. for all other expenditure.

The judgment was delivered on 8th November, 1907, in the matter of the application of H. V. McKay for an Order in terms of Section 2 (d) of the Excise Tariff 1906. The Commonwealth Parliament had by this Act imposed certain excise duties on agricultural implements, but provided that the Act should not apply to goods manufactured in Australia "under conditions as to the remuneration of labour which are declared by the President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to be fair and reasonable." The President discussed at length the meaning of "fair and reasonable", and stated: "These remarks would not be made if the Legislature had defined the general principles on which I am to determine whether wages are fair and reasonable or the reverse. . . . The provision for fair and reasonable remuneration is obviously designed for the benefit of the employees in the industry; and it must be meant to secure to them something which they cannot get by the ordinary system of individual bargaining with employers. . . . The standard must therefore be something else; and I cannot think of any other standard appropriate than 'the normal needs of the average employee regarded as a human being living in a civilized community.'" This may therefore be taken as the original criterion adopted by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in the fixation of its "basic" wage.

The President in his judgment stated: "My hesitation has been chiefly between 7s. and 7s. 6d.; but I put the minimum at 7s. as I do not think that I could refuse to declare an employer's remuneration to be fair and reasonable if I find him paying 7s. per day."

The "Harvester" basic rate was adopted by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for incorporation in its awards and practically the same rates continued until the year 1913, when the Court took cognizance of the retail price index-numbers, covering food and groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series) for the 30 more important towns of the Commonwealth, which had been published by the Commonwealth Statistician for the first time in the preceding year. These index-numbers had been taken back to 1901, with the year 1911 as base, and disclosed not only considerable percentage increases since 1907, but also large disparities in the relative purchasing power of money in the various towns. The basic rates for towns were thereafter fixed on their respective index-numbers, taking the index-number 875 for Melbourne for the year 1907 as being equivalent to 42s. per week, or the base of the table 1,000 as being equivalent to 48s. per week. Exceptions were made in the case of many country towns, where certain "loadings" were applied to counterbalance the lower index-numbers due to cheaper rentals.†

In 1922 an amount known as the "Powers' 3s."‡ was added as a general "loading" to the weekly wage for the purpose of securing to the worker during a period of rising prices the full equivalent of the "Harvester" standard. In the same year the system was instituted of making regular quarterly adjustments of the basic wage to accord with variations in purchasing

* The term "minimum" wage, on the other hand, is used to express the lowest rate of wage payable in a particular industry, and is either equal to or greater than the "basic" wage.

† As these indexes covered only about 60 per cent. of household expenditure, a low index due to low rentals would wrongly presume low costs in the remaining uninvestigated 40 per cent. of household expenditure and *vice versa*.

‡ Awarded by Mr. Justice Powers in the Gas Workers' Case (16 C.A.R., p. 32).

power as disclosed by the "A" series retail price index-numbers, and of basing the adjustments on the index-number for the quarter in place of that of the previous calendar year or the year ended the preceding quarter.

The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that any alteration of the "basic" wage or the principles on which it is computed, or any variation or interpretation of any award where the variation or interpretation would result in any such alteration, shall have no force or effect unless it is considered by a Court constituted by the Chief Judge and not less than two other Judges, and must be approved by a majority of the members of the Court. By a judgment of the High Court on the 21st April, 1933, the "basic" wage is taken to mean for the foregoing purpose, not only the "Harvester" wage, but any "loadings" forming part of the primary wage of an unskilled labourer (the wage payable for skilled labour being assessed on the basis of that primary wage). A "loading" is defined as an addition to the "basic" wage as compensation for some peculiar condition of labour or environment, and not by way of "margin for skill."

The adequacy or otherwise of the "Harvester" standard was the subject of much discussion during the period of its operation, the author of the judgment himself urging on several occasions the need for its review. The abnormal conditions during and for some time after the War of 1914-19 hindered such a review, which was regarded as less urgent by reason of the fact that wages throughout Australia were being automatically adjusted to changes in retail prices. A Royal Commission, however, was appointed in 1919 to assess a basic wage, but although its recommendations were not carried out (owing mainly to the considerable advance the amounts recommended represented over current rates and the grave doubts expressed as to the ability of industry to pay such rates, the two Reports of the Commission of 1920 and 1921 comprise a most valuable contribution on the subject of the basic wage in Australia, and a *résumé* of its findings is given on page 90.

No change was made in the method of fixation and adjustment of the basic wage until the onset of the depression, which began to be felt severely during 1930. Applications were then made to the Court by employers for some greater measure of reduction of wages than that afforded by the automatic adjustments to falling retail prices. An account of the proceedings which resulted in the Court reducing all wages under its jurisdiction by 10 per cent. from the 1st February, 1931, is given in Labour Report No. 23, page 74. Reference is also made to the Court's refusal in June, 1932, and May, 1933, to remove this special reduction.*

(ii) *Basic Wage Inquiry, 1934.*—The "Harvester" standard, adjusted to retail price variations, continued as the theoretical basis of the wage of the Commonwealth Court until 30th April, 1934, when it was superseded by a judgment delivered on 17th April, 1934, operative from 1st May, 1934,† full particulars of which appear in earlier issues of this Report. The basic wage declared on this occasion (subsequently referred to as the "Needs Basic Wage, 1934") was as follows for the six capital cities:—

		s.	d.			s.	d.
Sydney	..	67	0	Adelaide	..	64	0
Melbourne	..	64	0	Perth	..	66	0
Brisbane	..	61	0	Hobart	..	67	0

Six Capital cities, 65s.

* 30 C.A.R., p. 1; 31 C.A.R., p. 305.

† 33 C.A.R. p. 144.

The following is a comparison for the capital cities of the basic rates granted by the judgment and those ruling under previous practices of the Court :—

Comparison of Basic Rates awarded for Capital Cities.

City.	New Rates Awarded 1st May 1934, "C" Series.	Rates being paid prior to 1st May, 1934.(a)		Increase or Decrease.			
		Under "D" Series less 10 per cent. "cut".	Under "A" Series (Full).	Over "D" Series.		Over "A" Series.	
				Full.	Less 10 per cent. "cut".	Full.	Less 10 per cent. "cut".
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sydney ..	67 0	66 11	72 0	-7 4	0 1	-5 0	+2 2
Melbourne ..	64 0	63 4	67 6	-6 4	0 8	-3 6	+3 3
Brisbane ..	61 0	59 4	62 0	-4 11	1 8	-1 0	+5 2
Adelaide ..	64 0	60 2	63 0	-2 10	3 10	+1 0	+7 4
Perth ..	66 0	59 3	64 0	+0 2	6 9	+2 0	+8 5
Hobart ..	67 0	64 10	70 0	-5 0	2 2	-3 0	+4 0
Six Capitals ..	65 0	63 9	68 0	-5 10	1 3	-3 0	+3 10

(a) Calculated to nearest 6d., and including "Powers' 3s." or its equivalent.

NOTE.—For explanation of the "A", "C" and "D" series *see* pp. 35 to 37 of this Report.

The 10 per cent. special reduction in wages referred to above ceased to operate upon the introduction of the new rates, and the basis of the periodical adjustments to retail price variations was transferred from the "A" and the "D" series to the "C" series of index-numbers. The latter series covers Food and Groceries; Rent of 4 and 5-roomed Houses; Clothing; Fuel; Light; Household Utensils; Household Drapery; Fares; and other Miscellaneous household requirements. The base of the table (1,000) was taken by the Court as equal to 81s. per week. This gave the above rates in Column 2 for the capital cities, on the basis of their respective index-numbers. In effect the new rate for the six capital cities was the same as that previously paid under the "A" series, without the "Powers" 3s., and without the 10 per cent. reduction. Certain towns gained and others lost in comparison with rates under the "A" series, owing to the different relationship of towns under the "A" and the "C" series.

In view, however, of the fact that the vast majority of workers affected were being paid the rates shown in Column 3 under the "D" Series Retail Price Index (which rates allowed for the 10 per cent. "Cut" in wages), the differences compared with the *full* basic wages standard established by the Court from 1st May, 1933, by means of this Series were as shown in Column 5. The *full* rates under this Series may be obtained by adding one-ninth to the rates in Column 3.

(iii) *Basic Wage Inquiry, 1937.*—In May, 1937, the Commonwealth Court heard an application by the combined Unions for an increase in the basic wage. The Unions asked that the equivalent of the base (1,000) of the "C" series index be increased from 81s. to 93s., which on current index-numbers would have represented an average increase of about 10s. per week. The hearing extended from 10th May to 4th June, 1937, and the Court delivered judgment on 23rd June. The chief features of the judgment were*:

(a) Various amounts were added to the basic wage not as an integral, and therefore adjustable, part of that wage, but as "loadings" on the rates that would have been payable under the "shilling table" as determined

by the 1934 judgment. The latter was referred to in the judgment as the "needs" portion of the total resultant basic wage. The "loadings" and resultant "total basic wages" for the six capital cities were as follows :—

City.	" Needs " Basic Wage.	" Loading."	Total Basic Wage.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Sydney	72 0	6 0	78 0
Melbourne	69 0	6 0	75 0
Brisbane	68 0	6 0	74 0
Adelaide	68 0 (a)	4 0	72 0
Perth	70 0 (a)	4 0	74 0
Hobart	70 0 (b)	4 0	74 0
Six Capitals	70 0	5 0	75 0

(a) An additional 1s. was actually being paid under the "2s. minimum adjustment" provision.

(b) 1s. less was being paid under the "2s. minimum adjustment" provision.

The above were not to apply to railway employees, to whom the Court granted "loadings" of 5s. in New South Wales and Victoria, and 3s. in South Australia and Tasmania. Workers in the provincial towns were to receive "loadings"—6s. in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland; and 4s. in South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania. Wages based on "combination" index-numbers covering four, five or six capital cities, or the 30 towns, would receive a "loading" of 5s. per week. The maritime workers were granted a "loading" of 21s. 6d. per month, and the pastoral workers received increases proportionate to the increase of the flat basic rate, from 68s. to 77s. in respect of the basis of piece-work rates, and of 3s. per week for station hands.

The "loadings" came into operation in two instalments, viz., from the beginning of the first pay-periods commencing in July and October, 1937.

The maritime, pastoral and gas workers' increases were to become fully operative in the first pay period commencing in July.

(b) The former proviso that no adjustment of wages should take place unless the amount of variation reached at least 2s. was rescinded in favour of minimum variations of 1s. per week.

(c) The general policy laid down in the previous judgment in regard to rates for country towns was retained, with the exception that the rates for Geelong and Warrnambool were made the same as those for Melbourne.

(d) The basis of the adjustment of wages in accordance with the variations shown by retail price index-numbers was transferred from the "C" series to a special "Court" series based upon the "C" series, for an explanation of which see page 35.

(e) Female and junior rates were left for adjustment by individual judges when dealing with specific awards.

The main parts of the judgment were reprinted in earlier issues of the Labour Report (See No. 28, p. 77).

(iv) "*Lag*" in *Adjustments*.—The Commonwealth Court on 19th December, 1939, heard an application by the unions that the date of adjustment of the basic wage in accordance with the variations in the "Court" Series of index-numbers be brought nearer to the period upon which the variation was based. In a judgment delivered on the same day, the Court directed that such adjustments be made one month earlier. The effect, therefore, was to make future adjustments operative from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence in a February, a May, an August or a November.

(v) *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1940.—On 5th August, 1940, the Full Court commenced the hearing of an application by the combined unions for an increase in the existing basic wage by raising the value of 1,000 (the base of the "C" series index upon which the "Court" series are based) from 81s. to 100s. per week, and the abolition of the present "Prosperity" loadings, which would be regarded as incorporated in the new rate mentioned. The hearing was interrupted for a period of ten weeks owing to the serious illness of the Chief Judge (The Hon. Sir George S. Beeby) but was completed on 28th November, 1940. Judgment was delivered on 7th February, 1941, wherein the Court unanimously refused to grant any increase, and decided that the application should not be dismissed but stood over for further consideration after 30th June, 1941. The application was refused mainly owing to the uncertainty of the economic outlook under existing war conditions.*

In regard to the popular idea that the basic wage of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration was identified with a specific family unit, the Chief Judge made the following statements to clarify the position: "The Court has always conceded the 'needs' of an average family should be kept in mind in fixing a basic wage. But it has never as the result of its own inquiry specifically declared what is an average family or what is the cost of a regimen of food, clothing, shelter and miscellaneous items necessary to maintain it in frugal comfort, or that a basic wage should give effect to any such finding. In the end economic possibilities have always been the determining factor What should be sought is the independent ascertainment and prescription of the highest basic wage that can be sustained by the total of industry in all its primary, secondary and ancillary forms. That, no doubt, is the object, but the adoption of something like the real average family as the unit to be provided for is not without its use in the attainment of that object. There is no clear means of measuring the general wage-paying capacity of the total industry of a country. All that can be done is to approximate, and one of the methods of approximation is to find out the actual wage upon which well-situated labourers are at the time maintaining the average family unit. We may be pardoned for saying that Mr. Justice Higgins very wisely used this criterion in the *Harvester* case.† Moreover if the average-sized families of such well-situated labourers have become accustomed to enjoy, and do actually enjoy, a certain standard of living in our community, it may reasonably be assumed that such a standard for all labourers is probably not beyond the capacity of industry in general to provide. Therefore, in determining the amount of a living or basic wage there is sound economic warranty for the ascertainment of the real average family unit and of the cost of providing something like the standard which such families of well-employed labourers have already reached. But obviously, if the real average family unit is departed from, or a standard is sought for the likely maintenance of which experience gives no reason to hope, then an unrealizable wage-level may be ordained It may be that in the light of past experience the Court should conduct a specific inquiry as to the cost of living of an average family, but under war conditions, such an inquiry would be futile. More than ever before wage fixation is controlled by the economic outlook."

The Chief Judge further stated, "I was impressed by the new evidence and argument as to the inadequacy of the earnings of the lower paid wage-earners with families. On our accepted standards of living, looking at

* 44 C.A.R., p. 41.

† See page 71 for particulars.

it from the needs point of view only, I regard the present basic wage as adequate for a family unit of three persons, but think it offers only a meagre existence for a family unit of four. When the unit gets beyond four hardship is often experienced." He suggested that the more logical system would be to grade the basic wage according to family responsibilities and that, notwithstanding the increase in aggregate wages, the benefits resulting from a reapportionment of national income to increase the wages of those with more than one dependent child would more than offset the inflationary tendency of provision for a comprehensive scheme of child endowment, and that if a scheme of this nature were established, as recently announced by the Commonwealth Government* future fixations of the basic wage would be greatly simplified. The other two Judges (O'Mara J., and Piper J.) in separate judgments agreed with that of the Chief Judge, particularly in regard to the need for a child endowment scheme as a solution of the main problem.

(vi) *Rates Operative*.—The "basic" wage rates of the Commonwealth Court for adult males, including the "loadings" granted in 1937, operative on 1st May, 1946, are as follows:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
New South Wales—			South Australia—		
Sydney ..	99	0	Adelaide ..	94	0
Newcastle(a) ..	99	0	Five Towns ..	94	0
Broken Hill ..	103	0			
Five Towns ..	99	0	Western Australia—		
			Perth ..	94	0
Victoria—			Kalgoorlie ..	102	0
Melbourne ..	98	0(b)	Geraldton ..	99	0
Geelong ..			Five Towns ..	95	0
Warrnambool ..					
Mildura ..			Tasmania—		
Yallourn ..	104	6(b)	Hobart ..	95	0
Five Towns ..	98	0	Launceston ..	92	0
			Queenstown ..	95	0
Queensland—			Five Towns ..	94	0
Brisbane ..	94	0	Thirty Towns ..	97	0
Five Towns ..	94	0	Six Capital Cities ..	97	0

(a) Based on Sydney.

(b) Based on Melbourne.

With the exception of those mentioned above, the rate for provincial towns is 3s. less than that of their capital city.

The rate for adult females (prescribed by the individual judges) is approximately 54 per cent. of the adult male rate.

3. Basic Wage Rates for Females.—(i) *General*.—In its Judgment of 17th April, 1934, wherein the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration laid down the basis of its "needs" basic wage for adult males, the Court made the following statement in regard to the female rate:—

"The Court does not think it necessary or desirable, at any rate at the present time, to declare any wage as a basic wage for female employees. Generally speaking they carry no family responsibilities. The minimum wage should, of course, never be too low for the reasonable needs of the employee, but those needs may vary in different industries. In the variations now to be made the proportion in each award of the minimum wage for females to that of males will be preserved."

* Legislation covering a scheme which became operative on 1st July, 1947, was passed by the Commonwealth Parliament on 3rd April, 1947—see page 93 for details.

The previous practice of the Court was therefore continued whereby each Judge granted such proportion of the male rate as he deemed suited to the nature of the industry and the general circumstances of the case. Generally speaking, this proportion was in the vicinity of 54 per cent. of the male rate, although in some cases the proportion was about 56 per cent.

Until 1942 this continued to be substantially the practice of all Commonwealth and State industrial tribunals and in the main its continuance was then made mandatory by Part V. of the National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations which "pegged" as at 10th February, 1942, all rates of remuneration previously prevailing in any employment. The only exceptions allowed were variations to rectify anomalies, variations resultant from hearings pending prior to 10th February, 1942, and "cost of living" variations.

In March, 1942, however, special action was taken to constitute a Women's Employment Board in conjunction with measures to encourage women to undertake in war-time work which would normally have been performed by men. This Board was given special jurisdiction to determine terms and conditions of such employment.

The Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and State Industrial Tribunals continued to determine rates of pay, &c., of women engaged in what may broadly be described as "women's work" in the pre-war sense, while the jurisdiction of the Women's Employment Board (first appointed in March, 1942) was made to cover women engaged during the war in work formerly performed by men or in new work which immediately prior to the outbreak of the present war was not performed in Australia by any person.

In July, 1944, National Security (Female Minimum Rates) Regulations authorized the Commonwealth Arbitration Court to make comprehensive investigations (a) as to whether minimum rates of wage payable to females in industries considered by the Government to be necessary for war purposes are unreasonably low in comparison with minimum rates payable to females in other essential industries, (b) as to whether it is in the national interest, and fair and just, to so increase such rates, and (c) as to the amount of such increases. Determinations may be made for any period specified by the Court but not extending beyond six months after the end of the war. In making such determinations the Court was not bound by Part V.* of the National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations, although such regulations applied to the new rates after determination. The objective of the Female Minimum Rates Regulations was to remove unreasonable disparities which were creating justified discontent and impeding the manpower authority in redistributing female labour in vital industries. This review commenced in the Court on 23rd February, 1945, and ended on 23rd March, judgment being reserved.

Judgment was delivered by the Full Court on 4th May, 1945, to the effect that, in regard to (a) above, the majority of the Full Court (Piper *C.J.*, O'Mara and Kelly *JJ.*) found itself unable to declare that the rates in the "referred"† industries were unreasonably low compared with those in the three industries submitted by the Crown and the Union representatives as the standard rates for comparison, viz., those of the Clothing, Rubber and Metal industries, and that there was consequently no necessity to answer question (b). Two Judges (O'Mara and Kelly *JJ.*) considered that there were no other industries with rates lower than those of the standard industries mentioned above, compared with which the rates in the

* See paragraph 2 above.

† Twelve vital industries were "referred" by the Government for consideration.

"referred" industries were unreasonably low, but the Chief Judge refrained from giving any answer to this question as he was not satisfied that if this aspect had been fully investigated during the hearing on the material before the Court the answer would necessarily have been in the negative in the cases of all the "referred" industries. In a minority judgment, Drake-Brockman and Foster *JJ.*, answered (a) and (b) in the affirmative.

Following this negative result the Government, by National Security Regulation (S.R. 1945 No. 139) dated 13th August, 1945, provided for the remuneration of females in the "vital" industries concerned to be not less than 75 per cent. of the corresponding minimum male rate.

As from 12th October, 1944, the Women's Employment Board was discontinued and the Chairman of the Board (A. W. Foster) was made a Judge of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. The function of the Board under the Women's Employment Act then devolved upon the Court as constituted by a Judge designated by the Chief Judge. (*vide* S.R. 1944 No. 149).

The following sub-sections give a brief account of the functions allotted to and of the principles followed by the Women's Employment Board, and a summary of an important judgment delivered by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in 1943 stating the principles followed by the Court in fixing the basic rates payable to female workers and the difference between the rates payable to the women engaged in "women's work" and those payable to the special group of women engaged in "men's work" in war-time under the jurisdiction of the Women's Employment Board. The judgment also dealt with the question of "anomalies" as between the rates payable to the two classes of women workers.

(ii) *Women's Employment Board.*—The functions of the Women's Employment Board were specified by the Women's Employment Act of 1942*. The purpose of the Act as expressed in the title was "to encourage and regulate the employment of women for the purpose of aiding the prosecution of the present war". The jurisdiction of the Board was limited to females employed (after 2nd March, 1942) on work usually performed by males or which, immediately prior to the outbreak of the war, was not performed in Australia by any person.

The functions of the Board briefly were to decide what work and what female workers came within its jurisdiction (as defined) and the terms and conditions upon which women might be so employed including hours and special conditions as to safety welfare and health. The Board was required to fix rates of payment for such women with regard to their efficiency and productivity in relation to that of males engaged in such work and the Regulations provided that payment to females (engaged on "men's work") should be not less than 60 per cent. nor more than 100 per cent. of the male rate.

The Act placed upon employers the onus of applying to the Board for a determination in respect of women engaged on "men's work" as defined and empowered the Board to make determinations of its own motion or on application by organizations of employers or employees. The Board was also empowered to make decisions binding on all employers or on employers in any class or area.

In its several hundreds of decisions the Board awarded a female rate equal on the average to slightly over 60 per cent. of the male rate during the probationary period (usually a matter of a few weeks) and slightly over

(*) The Board was originally created under regulations under the *National Security Act 1939-1940*, dated 25th March, 1942 (Statutory Rules 1942, No. 146), but owing to the disallowance of such regulations by the Senate on 23rd September, 1942, the Board operated under the *Women's Employment Act, No. 55 of 1942*, as from 6th October, 1942, which validated all previous decisions, &c., of the first Board (gazetted on 11th June, 1942). The second Board was created on 10th November, 1942.

90 per cent. of the male rate after the probationary period, although in some cases this latter percentage ranges down to 75 per cent. In some instances, however, the Board has awarded to females the full basic wage for adult males and the full margins for skill (if any).

On the question of determining relative efficiency and productivity the Board on 17th July, 1942 (Decision No. 9 of 1942—Munition Factories), made the following observations:—

“ Obviously this task cannot be fulfilled with mathematical precision (and) no device mechanical or otherwise can determine the ‘ average ’ female or the ‘ average ’ male, nor measure as one against the other the relative efficiency in terms of a percentage nor determine with precision their relative productivity. To a limited extent records are a guide, for the rest the Board must rely on the opinions of the witnesses in the best position to judge, and the observations which the Board made in their extensive inspections of the plants in actual operation together with the material collected by the statistical departments of the Commonwealth and States.

“ The evidence shows that these females as a whole are not as productive as males. In some cases and not a few they equal if not excel males in efficiency and productivity and sometimes in both. Women are not as physically strong as men and there is always by Act of Parliament or in awards and determinations a limitation fixed upon the weights that females may be permitted to lift. These limitations are made not only to accommodate her lesser physical strength but also for paramount health reasons. This involves, where women replace men and weights are to be lifted beyond her capacity, the employment of a male to assist a group of women or an increase in the number of females so that the weight may be jointly lifted or the adoption of other methods. And further there are regular periods of lessened efficiency and productivity peculiar to females.

“ And in addition the evidence has revealed that women absent themselves from work much more frequently than males to the great embarrassment of the managers of industry. Many reasons and explanations are given for this, but the Board apart from noting them is not concerned to further investigate them The loss of productivity over all the departments of the Applicant in this case due to the excess of female absenteeism is substantial.

“ Apart from this loss, which all the departmental managers emphasized was a major problem, all without exception throughout this vast industry agreed that females handled their machines and produced results in every way equal to males. They were not slower to learn their new tasks than males, they did not waste more time in the operating of their machines than males and were doing splendid and satisfactory work.”

Exact figures are not available as to the number of women affected by the decisions of the Women’s Employment Board. Not only are they difficult to obtain even in respect of ordinary decisions, but in “ common rule ” cases (in proceedings for which it is not obligatory for all employers to appear) the Board did not have cognizance of all employers affected, and therefore no information as to the total numbers of women involved. Up to 31st July, 1944, the Board estimated that as regards those of whom it had direct knowledge from 70,000 to 80,000 women had come under it

decisions. To this date the Board had dealt with 579 applications, and 195 cases were part heard or to be heard, but the number of new cases was dwindling rapidly. In addition, 117 determinations had been given by Committees of Reference. A summary of the Board's findings shows that it had granted the following percentages of the male rates to women employed substantially on "men's work" (as defined):—

100 per cent.—Tram conductresses, broadcast mechanics, confectionery makers, postal clerks, lift operators, mail officers, machine telegraphists, shop assistants and bread carters.

90 per cent.—Munition workers, crane drivers, railway porters, motor mechanics, postwomen, power and hydraulic press operators, storewomen and packers, meter readers.

85 per cent.—Metal, rubber, paper manufacturing, tanning, leather and flax workers.

80 per cent.—Wool classing.

75 per cent.—Post office mechanics.

(iii) *Judgments by Commonwealth Arbitration Court (1943).*—On 24th March, 1943, a case involving determination of general principles as to rates of wage of female employees not within the jurisdiction of the Women's Employment Board was remitted to the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration by the Minister for Labour and National Service under Regulation 9 of the National Security (Industrial Peace) Regulations, particularly as affecting female workers at Government small arms ammunition factories. The rates in these cases were considered by their trade union to be anomalous compared with those awarded by the Women's Employment Board to certain other women employed in those factories. The Court in its Judgment dated 17th June, 1943*, rejected the contentions of the union (Arms Explosives and Munition Workers Federation of Australia) and enunciated in full the principles followed by the Court in determining female rates of wage within its jurisdiction.

In order to place the matter in perspective in its relation to the basic wage for males, the Court traced the history of the principles on which the basic wage for males was determined from its original declaration by Mr. Justice Higgins in his "Harvester" judgment of 1907 (see pages 71-77 of this Report) and continued—

"Although since 1930, when the 'economic and productivity factor' emerged as the 'dominant factor' in the problem of assessment (of the basic wage of adult male employees), the adequacy of the wage to meet the requirements of any 'specified family unit' has been only a subsidiary consideration, subsidiary that is to say to the question of the capacity of the national production to sustain a particular wage level, it is plain that the Court has not held that its basic wage has been fixed at too low a figure to meet the normal and reasonable needs of a family of husband, wife and at least one child. Nor has its adequacy to that extent been questioned. In this sense it can still be regarded as a family wage, inasmuch as it has been accepted as sufficient at all events to provide 'frugal comfort' for a man, his wife and at least one dependent child. For present purposes it is enough to say that, until a proper investigation demonstrates the contrary to be the case, we cannot but hold that the amount provided is more than sufficient to meet the normal and reasonable requirements of an

* 50 C.A.R., p. 191.

unmarried worker with no dependants to support out of his earnings. And the same may be said of the living or basic wages determined by authorities functioning under State legislation as appropriate for male employees within their jurisdiction. The method of assessment of wage rates for adult male workers adopted and followed by industrial authorities throughout Australia has been to fix a basic wage portion adequate for the estimated needs of some family group and to add to that some additional payment in recognition of the skill or experience possessed by the worker or the special conditions met with in his particular occupation. The basic wage portion has had no reference to work value; it has been assessed in accordance with needs and it has never been either held or suggested to be inadequate to meet the normal and reasonable needs not only of the worker himself but also of his wife and at least one dependent child."

The Court in its judgment then set out decisions arrived at by various Commonwealth and State Courts since 1912 when the Commonwealth Court first dealt directly with the problem of women's wages. Mr. Justice Higgins dealt with the case*, and stated "I fixed the minimum in 1907 of 7s. per day by finding the sum which would meet the normal needs of an average employee one of his normal needs being the need for domestic life. If he has a wife and children, he is under an obligation—even a legal obligation to maintain them. How is such a minimum applicable to the case of a woman . . . ? She is not, unless perhaps in very exceptional circumstances, under any such obligation. The minimum cannot be based on exceptional cases."

In respect of the "minimum rate" enjoined by the Commonwealth Arbitration Act, he held that "Nothing is clearer than that the minimum rate referred to in Section 40 means the minimum rate for a class of workers, those who do work of a certain character. If blacksmiths are the class of workers, the minimum rate must be such as recognizes that blacksmiths are usually men. If fruit-pickers are the class of workers, the minimum rate must be such as recognizes that, up to the present at least, most of the pickers are men (although women have been usually paid less), and that men and women are fairly in competition as to that class of work. If milliners are the class of workers, the minimum rate must, I think, be such as recognizes that all or nearly all milliners are women, and that men are not usually in competition with them."*

In concluding its review the Court stated "the fixation of the basic wage for women at amounts below 60 per cent. of that fixed for men has been general in the awards and determinations of this Court and other industrial authorities of Australia."

The Court stated its conclusions and laid down general principles in the following words:—

"It is beyond question that the general rule adopted and followed by the Australian industrial authorities in the assessment of wages for adult women workers, engaged upon work suitable for women in which they cannot fairly be said to be in competition with men for employment, has been and still is to fix a foundational amount, calculated with reference to the needs of a single woman who has to pay for her board and lodging, has to maintain herself out of her

* 6 C.A.R., p. 72.

earnings, but has no dependants to support; and to add to this foundational or basic amount such marginal amounts as may be appropriate in recognition of the particular skill or experience of the particular workers in question or as compensation for the particular conditions which they encounter in their occupations

"Just as the wages for male workers are assessed by adopting first a foundational wage—the basic wage—and adding to it marginal amounts fixed according to the relative skill and experience of particular workers or groups of workers, or to the special conditions they encounter, so too are women's wages, for work suitable to them in which they will not be disadvantaged by male competition, fixed by adding to a foundational or basic amount analogous margins. But in each case the foundational wage is in principle and justice different. The man's basic wage is more than sufficient for his personal needs; it purports to provide him with enough to support some family. The woman's, on the other hand, purports to be enough for her to maintain herself only. No allowance is made for the support of any dependants. The man's wage has been measured by this Court with reference to the dominating factor of the productive capacity of industry to sustain it and with due regard consequently to what its application in industry will mean, to the marginal structure which rises above it, and to the consequent wages which will in accordance with established rules and practice be paid to women and to minors.

"In the course of the hearing the Chief Judge drew attention to the necessity which would occur, if women's rates were to be assessed on the basis that relative efficiency and productivity (as between men and women) were to constitute the dominant factor, for a review of the principles in accordance with which the basic wage has been determined. That this necessity would arise must be apparent. For the basic wage for adult males has been fixed at as high an amount as the Court has thought practicable in all the circumstances of the case, including the circumstances of the existing proportionate levels of wages for women and minors. The share of men workers in the fruits of production will need to be reduced if women are to participate therein on an equal footing, or on a better footing generally than that to which they have hitherto been held to be entitled.

"It is desirable that we should indicate as clearly as possible the effect of the conclusions to which the review of the principles of wage assessment we have made has led us. It is that, so long as the foundational or basic wage for women is assessed according to a standard different from that which is the basis of the foundational or basic wage—a family wage—for men, the Court will not, in the exercise of its function of adjudicating between opposing interests, raise the general level of women's minimum wages in occupations suitable for women, and in which they do not encounter considerable competition from men, according to a comparison of their efficiency and productivity with the efficiency and productivity of men doing substantially similar work. To do so would at once depress the relative standard of living of the family as a group, and of its individual members, as compared with that of the typical single women wage-earner."

In December, 1943, Drake-Brockman, *J.* of this Court, in dealing with women employees in the Clothing (Dressmaking and Tailoring Sections)

and Rubber industries, awarded for the duration of the present war and for six months thereafter as a "flat rate" for the industry 75 per cent. of the "needs" basic wage, plus the "prosperity" and "industry" loadings ordinarily applicable. The reason for this action was (in the words of the Judgment) as follows: "it was also common ground (between all the parties) that wastage of the employees in the industry during the last three years had been exceptionally heavy and that it was essential that some means should be found to attract women to the industry and thereafter to retain them for some reasonable period of time after they had been trained."*

In July, 1944, the National Security (Female Minimum Wage) Regulations extended the discretion of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in fixing female minimum wage rates in "vital" industries in war-time as briefly described in sub-section (i) hereof.

4. State Basic Wages.—(i) *New South Wales.*—The first determination under the New South Wales Industrial Arbitration Act of a standard "living" wage for adult male employees was made on 16th February, 1914, when the Court of Industrial Arbitration fixed the "living" wage at £2 8s. per week for adult male employees in the metropolitan area. Determinations of the "living" wage in New South Wales were made by the Court of Industrial Arbitration during the period 1914 to 1916. The Board of Trade was established in 1918, and was empowered to determine the "living" wage for adult male and female employees in the State. Its first declaration was made on 5th September, 1918, and numerous declarations were made during the period 1918 to 1925, the last declaration being that of 24th August, 1925. The Board ceased to function after the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act 1926 established the Industrial Commission of New South Wales, which exercised the powers of the Board of Trade as from 15th April, 1926. The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act No. 45, 1927, altered the constitution of the Industrial Commission from a single Commissioner to one consisting of three members. Act No. 14 of 1936, however, provided for the appointment of four members and Act No. 36 of 1938 for the appointment of not less than five and not more than six members. The Commission was directed *inter alia*, "not more frequently than once in every six months to determine a standard of living and to declare . . . the living wages based upon such standard for adult male and female employees in the State." The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act, 1932, directed the Commission within twenty-eight days from the end of the months of March and September to adjust the living wages so declared to accord with the increased or decreased cost of maintaining the determined standard. The first declaration of the Commission was made on 15th December, 1926, when the rate for adult males was fixed at £4 4s. per week, the same rate as that previously declared by the Board of Trade. The adult male rate was determined on the family unit of a man, wife and two children from 1914 to 1925; a man and wife only in 1927, with family allowances for dependent children; and a man, wife, and one child in 1929, with family allowances for other dependent children.

Employees in rural industries are not covered by the rates shown in the following table; a living wage for rural workers of £3 6s. per week was in force for twelve months from October, 1921, and a rate of £4 4s. operated from June, 1927, to December, 1929, when the power of industrial tribunals to fix a living wage for rural workers was withdrawn.

* 51 C.A.R., pp. 632 and 648.

The variations in the living wage determined by the Industrial tribunals of New South Wales are shown below :—

Basic Wage Variations in New South Wales.

(State Jurisdiction.)

Male.			Female.		
Date of Declaration.	Basic Wage per Week.		Date of Declaration.	Basic Wage per Week.	
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
16th February, 1914 ..	2	8 0	..	..	..
17th December, 1915 ..	2	12 6	..	..	..
18th August, 1916 ..	2	15 6	..	..	..
5th September, 1918 ..	3	0 0	17th December, 1918 ..	1	10 0
8th October, 1919 ..	3	17 0	23rd December, 1919 ..	1	19 0
8th October, 1920 ..	4	5 0	23rd December, 1920 ..	2	3 0
8th October, 1921 ..	4	2 0	22nd December, 1921 ..	2	1 0
12th May, 1922 ..	3	18 0	9th October, 1922 ..	1	19 6
10th April, 1923 ..	3	19 0	(a) ..	2	0 0
7th September, 1923 ..	4	2 0	..	2	1 6
24th August, 1925 ..	4	4 0	..	2	2 6
27th June, 1927 ..	4	5 0	..	2	6 0
20th December, 1929 ..	4	2 6	..	2	4 6
26th August, 1932 ..	3	10 0	..	1	18 0
11th April, 1933 ..	3	8 6	..	1	17 0
20th October, 1933 ..	3	6 6	..	1	16 0
26th April, 1934 ..	3	7 6	..	1	16 6
18th April, 1935 ..	3	8 6	..	1	17 0
24th April, 1936 ..	3	9 0	..	(b) 1	17 6
27th October, 1936 ..	3	10 0	..	1	18 0
27th April, 1937 ..	3	11 6(c)	..	1	18 6

(a) Dates of declarations from 1923 on were the same as those for male rate.

(b) Rate declared, £1 15s. 6d., but law amended to provide a rate for females at 54 per cent. of that of males.

(c) Hereafter wages are fixed and adjusted quarterly in accordance with the practice of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for details of which and latest rates see below.

Following on the judgment of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court of 23rd June, 1937, referred to on page 74, the Government of New South Wales decided to bring the State Basic Wage into line with the Commonwealth rates ruling in the State, and secured an amendment of the Industrial Arbitration Act (No. 9 of 1937) to give effect thereto. The Act was passed on 7th October, 1937, and came into operation from the commencement of the first pay period in October, practically from 1st October, 1937. The general principles laid down by the Commonwealth Court were followed as closely as practicable and provision was made for the automatic adjustment of wages in conformity with variations of retail prices as shown by the Commonwealth Court's "All Items" Retail Price Index-Numbers, shortly known as the "Court" Series of Index-Numbers. The Commonwealth Court's principle of treating the "prosperity loadings" as a separate and non-adjustable part of the total basic wage was adopted. The rates for country towns were, with certain exceptions, fixed at 3s. per week below the metropolitan rate; and Crown employees, as defined, received a "prosperity loading" of 5s. per week, as against the 6s. laid down for employees in outside industry. The basic rate for adult females was fixed at 54 per cent. of the adult male rate to the nearest 6d. The provisions of the main Acts for the periodic declaration of the living wage by the Industrial Commission were repealed, but the amending Act placed on the Commission the responsibility of altering all awards and agreements in conformity with the

intentions of the new Act; to define boundaries within which the various rates are to operate*; and to specify the appropriate "Court" Series retail price index-numbers to which they are to be related.

Compared with State adult basic wages of £3 11s. 6d. per week for males and £1 18s. 6d. for females operative at the time, the alteration represented for males increases of 6s. 6d. in Sydney; 3s. 6d. in Country districts (with certain exceptions); and 4s. 6d. for railway and other Crown employees as defined by the Act. For females the increases were 54 per cent. of the foregoing, and amounted to 3s. 6d., 2s., and 2s. 6d., respectively.

The latest rates applicable in the metropolitan area under this system of fixation and adjustment are £4 19s. per week for adult males, and £2 13s. 6d. for adult females, from the first pay period commencing in November, 1945.

The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children under fourteen years of age operated in New South Wales from July, 1927, until superseded by the Commonwealth Government scheme from 1st July, 1941, and a brief account of the main features of the system appears on page 92.

(ii) *Victoria*.—Up to October, 1934, no basic wage was fixed by any State authority in Victoria, but the Wages Boards followed the rates of the Commonwealth Court to a large extent, and also made similar periodical adjustments in accordance with variations in retail prices. With the passing of The Factories and Shops Acts, Nos. 4,275 of 1934 which operated from 17th October, 1934, and 4,461 of 1936, it is now obligatory on all Wages Boards to adopt Commonwealth Award rates and conditions "which such Boards are under the Factory and Shops Acts empowered to include in their determinations". The Act further provides for the Secretary for Labour to make adjustments of wages according to variations in retail price index-numbers without calling the Boards together for the purpose, in respect of all Determinations which include an adjustment clause.

The latest Commonwealth rate for Melbourne is 98s. per week for males operative from 1st August, 1944, and the female rate approximately 54 per cent. of that or £2 13s.

(iii) *Queensland*.—The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act (No. 28) of 1929, repealed the Industrial Arbitration Act 1916 and amendments thereof, and the Basic Wage Act of 1925. The Board of Trade and Arbitration was abolished, and a Court, called the Industrial Court, was established. The Act provides that it shall be the duty of the Court to make declarations as to—(a) the "basic" wage, and (b) the maximum weekly hours to be worked in industry (called the "standard" hours). For the purposes of making any such declarations the Court shall be constituted by the Judge and the two Conciliation Commissioners.

The main provisions to be observed by the Court when determining the "basic" wage are—(a) the minimum wage of an adult male employee shall be not less than is sufficient to maintain a well-conducted employee of average health, strength and competence, and his wife and a family of three children in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the conditions of living prevailing among employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed, and provided that the earnings of the children or wife of such employee shall not be taken into account; (b) the minimum wage of an adult female employee shall be not less than is sufficient to enable her to support herself in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the nature of her duties and to the conditions of living prevailing among female employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed. The Court shall, in the matter of making

* See N.S.W. Industrial Gazette 1937, Vol. 52, pages 783-4.

declarations in regard to the "basic" wage or "standard" hours, take into consideration the probable economic effect of such declaration in relation to the community in general, and the probable economic effect thereof upon industry or any industry or industries concerned.

The first formal declaration by the Industrial Arbitration Court in this State of a basic wage was gazetted on 24th February, 1921, when the basic wage was declared at £4 5s. per week for adult males, and £2 3s. for adult females. Prior to this declaration the rate of £3 17s. per week for adult males had been generally recognized by the Court in its awards as the "basic" or "living" wage. The declarations of the Industrial Court are published in the Queensland Industrial Gazette and the various rates declared are as follows:—

Basic Wage Variations in Queensland.

(State Jurisdiction.)

Date of Operation.	Adult Basic Wage.	
	Male.	Female.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1st March, 1921	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st March, 1922	4 0 0	2 1 0
28th September, 1925 (a)	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st August, 1930	4 0 0	2 1 0
1st December, 1930	3 17 0	1 19 6
1st July, 1931	3 14 0	1 19 0
1st April, 1937	3 18 0	2 1 0
1st April, 1938	4 1 0	2 3 0
7th August, 1939	4 4 0	2 5 0
31st March, 1941	4 9 0	2 8 0
4th May, 1942	4 11 0	2 9 6

(a) Fixed by Basic Wage Act.

The amount of 89s. was continued in operation by the Court up to and including its declaration of 15th April, 1942, which amount, taking the most favorable view of the standard of living, it considered, complied with the requirements of Section 9 of the Act. In order to ensure that it would continue to do so under prevailing conditions created by the war, however, the Court indicated its intention "to declare it quarterly on the cost of living 'C' Series (All Items) index, commencing with the figures for the first quarter of 1942." In accordance with this undertaking the Court, on 21st April, 1942, raised, as from 4th May, 1942, the basic wage to 91s. per week for adult males and 49s. 6d. for adult females on the basis of the variation in retail prices shown by the index-numbers mentioned for Brisbane between the December quarter, 1941, and the March quarter, 1942, and similar variations have since been made whenever considered necessary by the Court.

The latest rates payable under such variations are 97s. for adult males and 54s. 6d. for adult females, from 2nd August, 1943.

The rates shown above are applicable throughout the Southern Division (Eastern District—including Brisbane); allowances are added for other areas as follows:—Southern Division (Western District), 7s. 4d.; Mackay Division, 5s. 6d.; Northern Division, 10s.; and Western District, 17s. 4d. Half of these allowances are granted to females.*

(iv) *South Australia*.—The Industrial Code 1920–1937 provides that the Board of Industry shall, after public inquiry as to the increase or decrease in the average cost of living, declare the "living" wage to be paid to adult male employees and to adult female employees. The Board has power also to fix different rates to be paid in different defined areas.

* As defined in Queensland Industrial Gazette, 10th December, 1921, page 826.

It is provided that the Board of Industry shall hold an inquiry for the purpose of declaring the "living" wage whenever a substantial change in the cost of living or any other circumstance has, in the opinion of the Board, rendered it just and expedient to review the question of the "living" wage, but a new determination cannot be made by the Board until the expiration of at least six months from the date of its previous determination.

The Board of Industry consists of five members, one nominated by the Minister for Industry, two nominated by the South Australian Employers' Federation as representatives of employers, and two nominated by the United Trades and Labour Council of South Australia as representatives of employees. The member nominated by the Minister is President and presides at all meetings of the Board.

According to the Industrial Code 1920-1937, "living wage" means a sum sufficient for the normal and reasonable needs of the average employee living in the locality where the work under consideration is done or is to be done.

The family unit is not specifically defined in the Code, but the South Australian Industrial Court in 1920 decided that the "average employee" in respect of whom the "living" wage is to be declared is a man with a wife and three children.

The first declaration of the "living" wage was made by the Board of Industry on 15th July, 1921, when the "living" wage for adult male employees in the metropolitan area was determined at £3 19s. 6d. per week. The "living" wage for adult female employees in the same area was declared on 11th August, 1921, at £1 15s. per week.

The variations in the living wages determined by the Board of Industry are shown below, and apply to the whole State:—

Basic Wage Variations in South Australia.

(State Jurisdiction.)

Male.		Female.	
Date of Operation.	Basic Wage per Week.	Date of Operation.	Basic Wage per Week.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
4th August, 1921..	3 19 6	1st September, 1921 ..	1 15 0
27th April, 1922 ..	3 17 6	..	..
8th November, 1923 ..	3 18 6	..	..
15th May, 1924 ..	4 2 0	13th November, 1924 ..	1 18 0
13th August, 1925 ..	4 5 6	3rd September, 1925 ..	1 19 6
30th October, 1930 ..	3 15 0	15th January, 1931 ..	1 15 0
10th September, 1931 ..	3 3 0	24th December, 1931 ..	1 11 6
7th November, 1935 ..	3 6 0	16th January, 1936 ..	1 13 0
7th January, 1937 ..	3 9 6	29th April, 1937 ..	1 14 6
25th November, 1937 ..	3 14 0	25th November, 1937 ..	1 16 6
5th January, 1939 ..	3 18 0	5th January, 1939 ..	1 18 0
28th November, 1940 ..	4 4 0	28th November, 1940 ..	2 1 0
27th November, 1941 ..	4 7 0	27th November, 1941 ..	2 3 6
15th October, 1942 ..	4 14 0	15th October, 1942 ..	2 6 2

(v) *Western Australia*.—The Court of Arbitration, appointed under the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912-1941, determines and declares the "basic" wage in this State. The Court consists of three members appointed by the Governor, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employers, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employees, while the third member is a Judge of the Supreme Court. The last-mentioned member is the President of the Court.

The Industrial Arbitration Act 1912-1941 provides that, before the 14th June in every year, the Court, of its own motion, shall determine and declare—(a) a "basic" wage to operate from the 1st July of each year, to be paid to male and female workers; and (b) wherever and whenever necessary, differential basic rates to be paid in special or defined areas of the State.

The expression "basic" wage means a sum sufficient to enable the average worker to whom it applies to live in reasonable comfort, having regard to any domestic obligation to which such average worker would be ordinarily subject. The family unit is not specifically defined in the Act, but it has been the practice of the Court to take as a basis of its calculations a man, his wife and two dependent children.

Provision is made in the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act of 1930 for quarterly adjustments of the "basic" wage by the Court of Arbitration when an official statement supplied to the Court by the State Government Statistician relating to the cost of living shows that a variation of 1s. or more per week has occurred, compared with the preceding quarter. These adjustments apply from the dates of declaration by the Court.

The first declaration of the "basic" wage by the Court of Arbitration since the authority to fix one was vested in the Court by the Industrial Arbitration Act of 1925 was made on 11th June, 1926, when the rate for adult male employees was determined at £4 5s. per week, and for adult female employees at £2 5s. 11d. per week.

The variations in the annual declarations of the Court of Arbitration for the various areas in the State are shown in the following table:—

Basic Wage Variations in Western Australia.
(State Jurisdiction.)

Date of Operation.	Metropolitan Area.		South-West Land Division.		Gold-fields Areas and Other Parts of State.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1st July, 1926 ..	£ s. d. 4 5 0	£ s. d. 2 5 11	£ s. d. 4 5 0	£ s. d. 2 5 11	£ s. d. 4 5 0	£ s. d. 2 5 11
" " 1929 ..	4 7 0	2 7 0	4 7 0	2 7 0	4 7 0	2 7 0
" " 1930 ..	4 6 0	2 6 5	4 5 0	2 5 11	4 5 0	2 5 11
" " 1931 ..	3 18 0	2 2 2	3 17 0	2 1 8	3 17 0	2 1 8
" " 1932 ..	3 12 0	1 18 11	3 13 6	1 19 8	3 18 0	2 2 2
" " 1933 ..	3 8 0	1 16 9	3 9 6	1 17 6	3 17 6	2 1 10
" " 1934 ..	3 9 6	1 17 6	3 10 0	1 17 10	3 19 6	2 2 11
" " 1935 ..	3 10 6	1 18 1	3 11 2	1 18 5	4 4 4	2 5 6
" " 1936 ..	3 10 6	1 18 1	3 11 9	1 18 9	4 6 0	2 6 5
" " 1937 ..	3 13 9	1 19 10	3 14 8	2 0 4	4 7 0	2 7 0
" " 1938 ..	4 0 0	2 3 2	4 1 0	2 3 9	4 13 3	2 10 4
" " 1939 ..	4 2 2	2 4 4	4 3 1	2 4 10	4 16 4	2 12 0
" " 1940 ..	4 2 8	2 4 8	4 3 3	2 4 11	4 16 3	2 12 0
" " 1941(c) ..	4 8 0	2 7 6	4 9 3	2 8 2	5 3 6	2 15 11
" " 1943 ..	4 19 1	2 13 6	4 18 1	2 13 0	5 5 9	2 17 1
" " 1944 ..	4 19 11	2 13 11	4 19 8	2 13 10	5 7 1	2 17 10
" " 1945 ..	5 0 1	2 14 1	4 19 7	2 13 9	5 7 5	2 18 0

(a) Excluding Gold-fields areas, where rates were the same as those operating from 1st July, 1926.

(b) Applicable from 24th April, 1939.

(c) Applicable from 28th April, 1941.

It is of interest that the declaration of 13th June, 1938 (operative from 1st July) was based on the findings of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage of 1920. For this purpose the Court reduced the amount recommended by the Commission for a five-unit family to the equivalent for a four-unit family, and brought the resulting amounts up to their purchasing equivalents

at the March quarter, 1938, by means of the separate "group" retail price index-numbers in respect of the sections for food, clothing and miscellaneous expenditure, and for rent added an amount which was considered fair under ruling conditions. The resultant amounts for the sections mentioned were—Food, £1 10s. 9d.; Rent, 19s. 6d.; Clothing, 14s. 9d.; Miscellaneous, 15s.—Total, £4. Thereafter the annual declarations of the Court have simply maintained that standard as varied by retail price index-numbers, while the provision for the quarterly adjustment by the Court of the basic wage in accordance with retail price index-numbers certified by the Government Statistician maintains its purchasing power over the intervening periods.

The latest rates payable in accordance with the quarterly adjustments declared by the Court are shown in para. (vii) below.

(vi) *Tasmania*.—No State basic wage is fixed by any State authority in Tasmania, but Wages Boards follow to a large extent the rates of the Commonwealth Court, and adjust wages automatically or otherwise in accordance with variations in retail price index-numbers in conformity with provisions of the Wages Board Act. The latest Commonwealth adult male rate for Hobart is £4 15s. operative from 1st February, 1946, and the adult female rate approximately 54 per cent. of the male rate or £2 11s. 6d.

(vii) *Rates Prescribed*.—The "basic" wage rates of State industrial tribunals in force on 1st May, 1946, are summarized in the following table:—

Basic Weekly Wage Rates fixed by State Industrial Tribunals.

State.	" Basic " Wage.		Date of Operation.	Family Unit (for Male Rate).
	Males.	Females.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
New South Wales	(a) 4 19 0	(a) 2 13 6	1.11.45	(b)
Victoria(c) ..	(4 18 0)	(2 13 0)	(1.8.44)	(c)
Queensland ..	(d) 4 17 0	2 14 6	2.8.43	Man, wife, and three children
South Australia ..	4 14 0	2 6 2	15.10.42	" " " "
Western Australia..	(e) 5 1 1	(e) 2 14 7	13.5.46	" " two "
Tasmania(c) ..	(4 15 0)	(2 11 6)	(1.2.46)	(c)

(a) Sydney, Newcastle, Port Kembla-Wollongong. Broken Hill—Males, £5 3s.; Females, £2 15s. 6d. Elsewhere—Males, £4 16s.; Females, £2 12s.

(b) Commonwealth Basic Wage operative—no defined family unit.

(c) None declared, but rates shown are those of Commonwealth Court which are followed to a large extent.

(d) Southern Division (Eastern District—including Brisbane). Allowances added for other Areas:—Southern Division (Western District), 7s. 4d.; Mackay Division, 5s. 6d.; Northern Division, 10s.; Western District, 17s. 4d. Half of these allowances are granted to females.

(e) Metropolitan area. "Basic" wage for Gold-fields areas and other portions of State exclusive of the South-West Land Division—Males, £5 9s. 0d.; Females, £2 18s. 0d. South-West Land Division (excluding Metropolitan area)—Males, £4 19s. 7d.; Females, £2 13s. 9d. (from 1.3.45).

5. **Royal Commission on Basic Wage, 1920.**—The Commonwealth Government appointed a Royal Commission in 1919 to inquire into and report upon the following matters:—

- (i) The actual cost of living at the present time, according to reasonable standards of comfort, including all matters comprised in the ordinary expenditure of a household, for a man with a wife and three children under fourteen years of age, and the several items and amounts which make up that cost.
- (ii) The actual corresponding cost of living during each of the last five years.
- (iii) How the basic wage may be automatically adjusted to the rise and fall from time to time of the purchasing-power of money.

The Commission issued two reports—the first in November, 1920, and the second in April, 1921. These reports show that, according to the standard assumed by the Commission, the cost of living as at the 1st November, 1920, for a family consisting of man, wife, and three children under fourteen years of age, was as follows:—

Royal Commission on Basic Wage : Cost of Living, 1st November, 1920.

Particulars.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Food ..	2 6 9	2 6 2	2 3 1	2 7 2	2 4 11	2 8 11
Rent ..	1 2 0	1 0 6	0 17 0	0 19 6	0 19 0	0 19 0
Clothing ..	1 7 0	1 9 0	1 6 0	1 8 3	1 7 9	1 9 2
Miscellaneous ..	1 1 4	1 0 10	1 0 1	1 1 2	1 2 3	0 19 10
Total (a) ..	5 17 1	5 16 6	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

(a) Weighted Average Six Capitals—£5 15s. 6d., but no recommendation made.

The corresponding costs of the commodities and services included (which are fully set out in the first Report) for the years 1914 to 1920 were as follows:—

Royal Commission on Basic Wage : Cost of Living, 1914 to 1920.

Years.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1914 ..	3 12 11	3 7 9	3 4 0	3 11 2	3 12 9	3 6 9
1915 ..	4 1 6	3 16 9	3 11 3	3 19 0	3 17 1	3 15 1
1916 ..	4 4 6	3 17 5	3 13 10	3 19 7	4 1 2	3 15 6
1917 ..	4 9 8	4 2 2	3 19 3	4 3 2	4 4 2	4 4 10
1918 ..	4 14 8	4 8 10	4 6 0	4 10 11	4 9 2	4 8 6
1919 ..	5 5 3	4 18 5	4 15 10	5 2 6	5 0 9	5 0 4
1920 ..	5 17 1	5 16 6	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

In answer to the third clause of the inquiry, the Commission recommended that "a Bureau of Labour should be organized from existing members of the Public Service, which should ascertain from time to time the rise and fall in the purchasing-power of money in relation to the reasonable standard of comfort for the typical family (i.e., such a family as is described in Clause 1)". After consulting the Commonwealth Statistician as to methods of collection and tabulation, the Government decided that the recommendation would be met by widening the scope of inquiries of this nature already made by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, the outcome of which was the creation of the All Items ("C" Series) Index of Retail Prices, particulars of which are published on pp. 6, 9, 17-25, of this Report.

The recommendations of this Commission in respect of the basic wage were not carried out, owing largely to the marked advance the amounts suggested represented over ruling rates,* and the grave doubts expressed as to the ability of industry to pay such rates.

The standards of this wage, however, were implemented to a certain extent in the "Living Wage" declarations of the Industrial Commission of New South Wales in 1926 to 1932.

* The "Harvester" equivalent for Melbourne as at the time (September quarter, 1920) was £4 13s. per week, but only £3 18s. to £4 2s. was being paid on the basis of an annual index-number.

The amounts recommended were also adopted with slight modifications by the Industrial Court of Western Australia in 1926 and again in 1938 on the basis of a four-unit family, further particulars of which will be found on page 89.

6. Child Endowment.—(i) *General.*—The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children under fourteen years of age is now in operation throughout Australia on a national basis.

(ii) *The New South Wales Scheme.*—The first attempt in Australia to institute the system was made in New South Wales in 1919, when a Bill was introduced into the State Parliament to provide a flat basic wage for a man and wife, and an allowance of 5s. per week for each child, the latter rate to be reduced on a sliding scale and to cease when the income reached an amount of £3 per week above the basic wage. The Bill was rejected, but the subject again came up in the session of 1926–27, when Acts, which have been amended during subsequent years, provided for the payment of child allowances. The original Act was assented to on 11th April, 1927, and allowances were paid as from 23rd July, 1927. Prior to December, 1929, the Act provided for (a) the declaration of a basic wage, and (b) the payment of an allowance of 5s. per week in respect of each dependent child, subject to the provision that child allowances were to be paid only to the extent to which the total earnings of the worker and his family fell short of the sum represented by the *basic wage* plus child allowance at the rate of 5s. per week for each child. The amending Act, assented to on 23rd December, 1929, provided that, subject to the last-mentioned provision, child endowment shall be 5s. per week for each child except one in the family. Payments of child allowances in New South Wales were made from a fund created by a levy on the total amount of wages paid by employers. The rate of tax during 1930 was fixed at 1 per cent. From 1st July, 1931, the rate was fixed at 2 per cent., and from 1st January, 1932, at the rate of 5d. in the £ on all wages above £3 per week. The amount of levy collected during 1932–33 was £2,409,034, and £2,105,659 was paid away in allowances to 63,072 families. The levy was discontinued as from 1st January, 1934, the cost of endowment being met from the Special Income and Wages Tax, which is also used for other social services. The scheme was abolished upon the introduction of the national scheme by the Commonwealth Government in July, 1941, particulars of which appear in (iv) below.

(iii) *Commonwealth Public Service.*—The first system of child endowment in Australia was instituted within the Commonwealth Public Service. It came into operation on 1st November, 1920, when, following on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage,* the Commonwealth Government decided to pay a basic wage of £4 a week in certain cases and child allowances to officers at the rate of 5s. per week for each dependent child under fourteen years of age, with a limitation of salary plus allowance of £400 per annum. As the result of proceedings before the Public Service Arbitrator in 1923, these allowances were confirmed as a permanent part of the salary scheme, and the necessary fund to meet them was created by deducting the average value of the payment from the basic wage of all adult officers. In effect, therefore, the officers themselves

* The Chairman of the Commission (Mr. A. B. Piddington, K.C.) in a Supplementary Report suggested that the wage of £5 16s. recommended by the Commission be split up into a flat basic wage payment of £4, and a child endowment of 12s. per week for each child, the fund for the payment of the latter allowance to be created by a tax on employers of 10s. 9d. per week per employee.

provided the fund from which the allowance was paid. The deduction was originally £11 per annum, but later £12. The payment of the allowance in the Service was subsequently extended to officers receiving from salary and allowance an amount not greater than £500 per annum. Further details regarding the introduction and method of calculating the payments will be found in Labour Report No. 17, and later Reports. The scheme was abolished at the instance of the officers upon the introduction of the national scheme by the Commonwealth Government in July, 1941, particulars of which appear in (iv) below. The deduction of £12 per annum was consequently discontinued from 10th July, 1941.

(iv) *National Scheme*.—The Commonwealth Government, in June, 1927, called a conference at Melbourne of the Premiers of the several States to consider the question from a national standpoint. The Prime Minister submitted various estimates of cost of endowing dependent children under fourteen years of age in Australia at 5s. per week. After discussion, it was decided to refer the matter to a Royal Commission, to be appointed by the Commonwealth Government.

The Commission submitted its Report on 15th December, 1928. It was not unanimous in its findings, and the opinions and recommendations of the members were embodied in two separate reports, which dealt exhaustively with the constitutional aspects, existing systems, industrial legislation, the basic wage, standard of living, regulation of wages, working conditions and cognate matters.

The findings and recommendations in the *majority* and *minority* reports are given in Labour Report No. 19.

At the conference of Commonwealth and State Ministers held at Canberra in May, 1929, the Prime Minister stated that the Commonwealth Government was not prepared to adopt a scheme financed entirely from the proceeds of taxation, as had been recommended in the minority report. The Commonwealth Government agreed with the majority of the Commission that child endowment could not be separated from the control of the basic wage—a power which the Commonwealth did not possess and which the States were not prepared to relinquish. The Government, therefore, did not propose to establish any system of child endowment. It was generally agreed that any scheme which would increase the charges upon industry would be unwise at that particular time. The matter of child endowment was accordingly left to be dealt with as the State Governments should think proper.

Early in 1941, the Commonwealth Government announced its intention to introduce a scheme of child endowment throughout Australia. The necessary legislation* was introduced into Parliament on 27th March, and the passage through all stages was completed on 3rd April, 1941. The main features of the scheme, which came into operation from 1st July, 1941, are as follows :—

- (a) Payment at the rate of 7s. 6d. per week (5s. per week prior to 26th June, 1945,) for all children under the age of sixteen in excess of one child in each family, provided the persons claiming the endowment, and the child in respect of whom the endowment is claimed have resided in Australia for the period of twelve months preceding the date of claim.
- (b) The endowment is payable to the mother of the child, or to such persons as are prescribed.

* Act No. 8, 1941 (Child Endowment Act) as amended by No. 5, 1942 and Nos. 10 and 41, 1945; Act No. 2, 1941 (Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act); and Act No. 3, 1941 (Pay-roll Tax Act).

- (c) Endowment is also payable to approved institutions, not wholly or mainly dependent upon the Commonwealth or a State for their revenue, in respect of all children under sixteen years of age maintained therein.
- (d) The scheme was financed partly from Consolidated Revenue, partly from the abolition of the exemptions from taxation in respect of children after the first and the major part from a tax of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of all pay-rolls in excess of £20 per week, but is now a charge on the National Welfare Fund.
- (e) The general administration of the Act is under the control of the Director-General of Social Services, and the detailed administration is carried out by the Deputy Directors in each State and other officers appointed for the purposes of the Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act.

Consequent upon the operation of the Commonwealth Child Endowment Scheme, appropriate steps were taken for the termination of the schemes operating in New South Wales and the Commonwealth Public Service.

A summary of the operations of this scheme during the first four years of its existence, from 1st July, 1941, to 30th June, 1945, is set out in the two following tables:—

Child Endowment.

Year.	Endowed Families.		Approved Institutions.		Total Number of Endowed Children.
	Number of Families.	Number of Endowed Children.	Number of Institutions.	Number of Endowed Children.	
1941-42 ..	487,674	895,558	246	14,289	909,847
1942-43 ..	491,121	891,221	315	16,938	908,159
1943-44 ..	503,140	903,577	321	18,396	921,973
1944-45 ..	518,293	920,427	335	18,116	938,543

Year.	Amount Paid to Endowees and Approved Institutions.	Annual Liability for Endowment on 30th June.	Average Annual Rate of Endowment per Endowed Family on 30th June.	Average Number of Endowed Children per Endowed Family on 30th June.	Number of Endowed Children in each 10,000 of Population.
	£	£	£		
1941-42 ..	11,302,863	11,828,011	23.873	1.836	1,268
1942-43 ..	11,659,626	11,806,067	23.591	1.815	1,256
1943-44 ..	12,256,976	11,985,649	23.346	1.796	1,262
1944-45 ..	12,036,249	18,301,588	34.630	1.776	1,271

CHAPTER IV.—EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

§ 1. Employment.

1. **Total Occupied Persons—Australia.**—The following estimates of the total numbers of occupied males and females are based principally on data from the Census of 1933, the National Register of July, 1939, the Civilian Register of June, 1943, and the Occupation Survey of 1st June, 1945. These sources of information are supplemented by Pay-roll Tax returns, which first became available in July, 1941.

For convenience, estimates of employment as at the end of May, 1945, have been shown in the tables in this chapter as referring to 1st June, 1945, to correspond with the date of the Occupation Survey of the civilian population which was taken on that day.

The estimates in the first table are subdivided into three categories (1) Defence Forces; (2) all persons fully occupied as employers, or as workers in businesses or on farms on their own account; and (3) wage or salary earners fully employed, or occupied as casual, part-time, intermittent or seasonal wage earners. Wage earners who are unemployed, in the sense that they are temporarily incapacitated or have no work to which to go, are excluded. Government "relief" workers are also excluded from the figures for the earlier years.

Unpaid "helpers" in industries other than rural (i.e. agricultural, pastoral, &c.), who numbered about 6,000 males and 4,000 females in June, 1933, have been included with wage and salary earners. Male unpaid "helpers" in rural industry, who numbered about 35,000 in June, 1933, and in 1945 were in the vicinity of 38,000, have been included with employers and workers on own account, as it is considered that the majority of these are sons or other close relatives of farmers working in an unofficial partnership, or as learners, with the farm owner. Unpaid female "helpers" on farms are very numerous, but their exact number is not known. Generally, they combine part-time dairy (or other farm) work with part-time duties in the home. Like women occupied in unpaid home duties, they have been excluded from the category of occupied persons.

Statistics of net enlistments in the Defence Forces shown in the table below represent total enlistments for full-time duty less deaths and discharges. Prior to December, 1941, men in certain age-groups were called-up for short training courses but these men are excluded from the figures. In July, 1941, the number of such men was approximately 50,000.

Total Occupied Persons : Australia, 1933 to 1945.
(Thousands.)

Year and Month.	Defence Forces (Net Enlistments). (a)	Employers and Workers on Own Account.			Wage and Salary Earners.			Total Occupied Civilians.	Total Occupied Persons including Forces.
		Rural Industry.	Other Industries.	Total.	Rural Industry.	Other Industries.	Total.		
MALES.									
1933—June..	5.8	292.4	248.3	540.7	200.0	992.1	1192.1	1732.8	1738.6
1939—July..	12.9	300.0	299.0	599.0	202.0	1293.1	1495.1	2094.1	2107.0
1941—July..	282.8 <i>b</i>	284.0	208.0	492.0	188.0	1363.4	1551.4	2043.4	2326.2
1942—June..	617.4	256.0	137.8	393.8	145.5	1309.5	1455.0	1848.8	2466.2
1943—June..	685.0	261.8	150.2	412.0	120.2	1273.9	1394.1	1806.1	2491.1
1945—June..	603.5	286.5	188.1	474.6	129.8	1294.6	1424.4	1899.0	2502.5
FEMALES.									
						(c)			
1933—June..	..	15.1	56.1	71.2	3.2	447.5	450.7	521.9	521.9
1939—July..	..	16.0	62.0	78.0	4.0	561.6	565.6	643.6	643.6
1941—July..	1.8	14.0	56.8	70.8	6.0	660.5	666.5	737.3	739.1
1942—June..	16.6	12.0	51.9	63.9	16.0	684.1	700.1	764.0	780.6
1943—June..	44.0	11.7	34.4	46.1	28.0	682.2	710.2	756.3	800.3
1945—June..	45.4	16.8	43.3	60.1	23.0	667.1	690.1	750.2	795.6
PERSONS.									
1933—June..	5.8	307.5	304.4	611.9	203.2	1439.6	1642.8	2254.7	2260.5
1939—July..	12.9	316.0	361.0	677.0	205.0	1854.7	2060.7	2737.7	2750.6
1941—July..	284.6 <i>b</i>	298.0	264.8	562.8	194.0	2023.9	2217.9	2780.7	3065.3
1942—June..	634.0	268.0	189.7	457.7	161.5	1993.6	2155.1	2612.8	3246.8
1943—June..	729.0	273.5	184.6	458.1	148.2	1956.1	2104.3	2562.4	3291.4
1945—June..	648.9	303.3	231.4	534.7	152.8	1951.7	2114.5	2649.2	3298.1

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Excludes approximately 50,000 men called up for short training courses. (c) Includes females, in thousands, in private domestic service as follows:—106.7 in June, 1933, 124.5 in July, 1939, 100.0 in July, 1941, 75.0 in June, 1942, 35.9 in June, 1943, and 47.6 in June 1945.

From June, 1933, to July, 1939, the number of occupied persons of both sexes increased by 490,100, due partly to normal increase in the number of available breadwinners and partly to the decrease of 265,400 in the number unemployed from 563,400 to 298,000.

During the war years from July, 1939, to June, 1943, the number of males occupied as civilians decreased by 288,000, while females occupied as civilians increased by 112,700, representing a net decrease of 175,300 persons in civil occupations. Nevertheless, in order to provide manpower for Australia's Defence Forces, while expanding essential production, by June, 1943, 178,000 persons had been recruited to the working population (including forces) who, but for the war, would not have been in paid occupations. Together with the normal increase of available breadwinners of 91,000, and the absorption into employment of 272,000 unemployed persons, the net result was equal to the intake of persons into the Defence Forces. Changes between July, 1939, and June, 1943, may be summarized as follows:—

	Males.		Females.		Persons.
	'000		'000		'000
Defence Forces, July, 1939	13	..	..	..	13
Decrease in numbers in civilian work ..	288	..	113(a)	..	175
Decrease in unemployment	244	..	28	..	272
Normal increase in available breadwinners(b)	61	..	30	..	91
Abnormal (war-time) increase in available breadwinners	79	..	99	..	178
Total of above = Net Enlistments in Forces June, 1943	685	..	44	..	729

(a) Increase. (b) The total increase was estimated to be reduced by 17,000 through the raising of the school-leaving age in New South Wales. Deaths of members of the Forces also have been deducted.

Estimates of the normal increase in numbers of breadwinners available and, by deduction, the abnormal increase under war conditions, are necessarily tentative because complete data has not been available since the 1933 Census. Approximate calculations suggest that in respect of males there was a decrease of 15,000 between June, 1943, and June, 1945, in the abnormal, or war-time, increase in available breadwinners while in respect of females there was a decrease of some 11,000.

Net enlistments of males in the Defence Forces of the Commonwealth (excluding enlistments of residents of New Guinea, Papua and oversea countries) reached a maximum of 687,600 in August, 1943. Net enlistments of females reached a maximum of 48,700 in February, 1944.

Male employers and workers on own account decreased heavily in the first three years of war, especially in industries other than rural. There was a substantial return of men to these categories between June, 1943 and June, 1945. The number of male wage and salary earners in rural industry, which had not changed appreciably since 1933, fell heavily throughout the four years ended June, 1943, and increased only very slightly between 1943 and 1945. In other industries male wage and salary earners increased by over 70,000 during the first two war years although over 300,000 men were in the Forces full-time, or in training camps, in July, 1941. The net increase in male civilian wage earners (including rural) was

56,000 between July, 1939, and July, 1941, resulting from transfers of employers and persons working on their own account to wage and salary earning and absorption of some 180,000 unemployed men and the counteracting effect of enlistments in the Forces. The entry of Japan into the war at the end of 1941 led to heavy demands for man-power for the Defence Forces and caused employment of male wage and salary earners in rural industry to decrease by 67,800 and in industries other than rural by 89,500 in the two years ended June, 1943. There was an increase of 30,300 in the next two years in numbers of male wage and salary earners in employment.

Females occupied full-time in rural work, who have never been numerous in Australia, increased from 20,000 to nearly 40,000 in the four years ended June, 1943. In other industries, female employers and workers on own account decreased by 27,600, or 45 per cent., during the period 1939 to 1943 and the estimated decrease was specially heavy in the year 1942-43, when special measures were adopted to divert women to employment in essential industries. Females engaged as employees in domestic work in private homes had decreased by June, 1943, to less than one-third their numbers at the outbreak of war. An increase between June, 1939 and 1943, of 209,200 in female wage and salary earners employed in industries other than rural and private domestic service brought their number to 646,300 in June, 1943, and there was a decline of 26,800 in the following two years. The war-time increase was due to great expansion of female employment in munition and other essential factory production, and the replacement of men by women in a wide range of essential occupations, many of which were not normally followed by females.

2. **Total Occupied Persons—States.**—The following table shows total occupied males and females in each State in July, 1939, and June, 1945, divided into Defence Forces, Rural Industry and Other Industries.

Total Occupied Persons—July, 1939 and June, 1945.(a)
(Thousands)

State.	Defence Forces. (Net Enlistments.)		Rural Industry.		Other Industries.		Total Occupied Persons including Forces.	
	1939.	1945.	1939.	1945.	1939.	1945.	1939.	1945.
MALES.								
New South Wales ..	5.7	229.1	161.1	132.5	651.3	608.7	818.1	970.3
Victoria ..	5.0	168.8	124.0	102.3	438.5	411.6	567.5	682.7
Queensland ..	0.5	82.5	102.8	93.6	210.9	196.5	314.2	372.6
South Australia ..	0.4	50.9	50.3	38.6	132.0	125.1	182.7	214.6
Western Australia ..	1.0	53.0	41.3	29.2	105.8	87.0	148.1	169.2
Tasmania ..	0.3	17.1	21.5	19.0	46.9	45.5	68.7	81.6
Australia(b) ..	12.9	603.5	502.0	416.3	1592.1	1482.7	2107.0	2502.5

(a) Estimates for 1st June, 1945, are subject to slight revision.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

Total Occupied Persons—July, 1939 and June, 1945(a)—continued.
(Thousands)

State.	Defence Forces. (Net Enlistments.)		Rural Industry.		Other Industries.		Total Occupied Persons Including Forces.	
	1939.	1945.	1939.	1945.	1939.	1945.	1939.	1945.
FEMALES.								
New South Wales ..	..	16.6	5.6	12.4	243.6	282.7	249.2	311.7
Victoria ..	..	12.0	6.3	10.8	194.4	218.3	200.7	241.1
Queensland ..	..	6.4	4.6	9.5	77.7	90.0	82.3	105.9
South Australia ..	..	4.2	1.8	3.4	51.6	56.7	53.4	64.3
Western Australia ..	..	4.8	1.1	2.4	36.9	40.9	38.0	48.1
Tasmania ..	..	1.3	0.6	1.3	17.9	19.6	18.5	22.2
Australia(b) ..	..	45.4	20.0	39.8	623.6	710.4	643.6	795.6
PERSONS.								
New South Wales ..	5.7	245.7	166.7	144.9	894.9	891.4	1067.3	1282.0
Victoria ..	5.0	180.8	130.3	113.1	632.9	629.9	768.2	923.8
Queensland ..	0.5	88.9	107.4	103.1	288.6	286.5	396.5	478.5
South Australia ..	0.4	55.1	52.1	42.0	183.6	181.8	236.1	278.9
Western Australia ..	1.0	57.8	42.4	31.6	142.7	127.9	186.1	217.3
Tasmania ..	0.3	18.4	22.1	20.3	64.8	65.1	87.2	103.8
Australia (b) ..	12.9	648.9	522.0	456.1	2215.7	2193.1	2750.6	3298.1

(a) Estimates for 1st June, 1945, are subject to slight revision.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

Between July, 1939, and June, 1945, the occupied population of Australia (including Defence Forces but excluding unemployed, pensioners, retired, independent persons and dependants) increased by approximately 20 per cent. The proportionate increase in each State was very close to the Australian average except in Western Australia which showed the smallest increase (16.8 per cent.).

During the war, males occupied in rural industry decreased substantially in all States, but particularly in Western Australia. From July, 1939, to June, 1943, the decrease in Australia was 120,000. In the following two years there was an increase of 34,000 spread over all States. The numbers of female rural workers increased in all States between 1939 and 1943 from 20,000 to 39,700 and was 39,800 in June, 1945.

In June, 1943, the numbers of male and female employers and workers on own account in industries other than rural were little more than half the pre-war level but there was an increase of some 47,000 between June, 1943 and June, 1945. Increases occurred in all States. Wage earners in these industries showed only a small increase for Australia as a whole, New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania showing increases while Victoria and South Australia showed decreases.

3. Wage and Salary Earners in Employment—Australia—Estimates are made monthly of wage and salary earners in employment (excluding rural employment and domestic work in private homes), based on Pay-roll Tax returns and statistics of Commonwealth Government employment. Pay-roll Tax returns cover only a small proportion of wage earners on rural holdings, and practically no private domestic servants. It has not been possible, therefore, to obtain numbers of farm employees, and private domestic servants, except when a Census or quasi-Census such as Occupation Survey (1st June, 1945) is taken. Statistics of employers and persons

working on their own account likewise are obtainable only from a Census or quasi-Census. The next two tables show the trend in that section of wage and salary earning employment which it is possible to measure monthly. Estimates are given as at June, 1933 (last Census) and July, 1939 (based on National Register). From July, 1941, (commencement of Pay-roll Tax returns) the estimates are available for each month, and the tables show the level at November, 1941 (just before the Pacific War commenced and when the number of male wage and salary earners in civilian work, excluding rural, had reached a maximum), at mid-1942, mid-1943, mid-1945, and at the end of 1945. (Current figures are published each month in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*.)

The table immediately below shows the total male and female wage and salary earners in civil employment (excluding rural and private domestic employment) subdivided to show the extent of employment provided by Governmental authorities and by private employers respectively. Some principal industrial groups included in the total are shown separately and include both Governmental and private employees.

Wage and Salary Earners in Civil Employment : Industrial Groups 1933 to 1945.

(Excluding Rural Workers, Female Domestic Workers in Private Homes, and Persons on Paid Strength of Defence Forces.)

(Thousands.)

Year and Month.	Total Employment.			Employment in Certain Industrial Groups.				
	Governmental. (a)	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarrying.	Factories.	Transport and Communication.	Retail Trade.	Other Commerce and Finance.
MALES.								
1933—June ..	262.2	729.9	992.1	36.3	251.7	164.5	212.3	
1939—July ..	349.8	943.3	1293.1	52.2	391.5	193.6	259.7	
1941—November	381.5	999.8	1381.3	53.9	509.8	207.3	101.9	117.9
1942—June ..	420.9	888.6	1309.5	48.0	509.0	205.6	81.2	98.5
1943—June ..	412.5	861.4	1273.9	45.0	520.7	205.1	71.4	88.8
1945—June(b)	399.7	804.9	1294.6	44.2	513.2	220.6	75.9	94.2
December (c)	395.5	899.2	1294.7	42.8	476.7	228.2	89.1	105.7
FEMALES.								
1933—June ..	46.5	294.3	340.8	0.2	103.1	11.0	87.3	
1939—July ..	55.2	381.9	437.1	0.3	148.2	12.6	114.9	
1941—November	76.3	508.4	584.7	0.5	198.2	22.0	106.4	47.4
1942—June ..	100.8	508.3	609.1	0.6	206.0	25.6	104.1	51.6
1943—June ..	129.2	517.1	646.3	0.5	228.6	34.5	98.2	52.5
1945—June(b)	121.6	497.9	619.5	0.6	207.6	38.1	99.1	53.0
December (c)	101.7	494.7	596.4	0.6	185.1	37.3	108.0	52.6
PERSONS.								
1933—June ..	308.7	1024.2	1332.9	36.5	354.8	175.5	299.6	
1939—July ..	405.0	1325.2	1730.2	52.5	539.7	206.2	374.6	
1941—November	457.8	1508.2	1966.0	54.4	708.0	229.3	208.3	165.3
1942—June ..	521.7	1396.9	1918.6	48.6	715.0	231.2	185.3	150.1
1943—June ..	541.7	1378.5	1920.2	45.5	740.3	239.6	169.6	141.3
1945—June(b)	521.3	1392.8	1914.1	44.8	720.8	258.7	175.0	147.2
December (c)	497.2	1393.9	1891.1	43.4	661.8	265.5	197.1	158.3

(a) Includes employees of Australian Government Authorities (Commonwealth, State and Local) and of Allied Governments. (b) Estimates for end of May, 1945, shown for 1st June, subject to revision. (c) Subject to revision.

4. **Wage and Salary Earners in Employment—States.**—Statistics of total employment of wage and salary earners (excluding rural and private domestic employment) since 1933 are shown for each State in the next table.

Wage and Salary Earners in Civil Employment : States, 1933 to 1945.

(Excluding Rural Workers, Female Domestic Workers in Private Homes, and Persons on Paid Strength of Defence Forces. Subject to Revision.)

(Thousands.)

Year and Month.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia (a)
MALES.							
1933—June ..	380.7	288.6	139.8	80.5	70.1	29.0	992.1
1939—July ..	529.9	357.6	172.8	106.7	82.9	37.4	1293.1
1941—November	556.3	405.1	167.9	121.9	83.2	39.4	1381.3
1942—June ..	534.5	375.5	165.7	116.9	71.7	37.5	1309.5
1943—June ..	524.5	355.3	167.5	110.7	70.4	36.9	1273.9
1945—June(b) ..	534.2	359.1	168.8	109.6	75.6	39.6	1294.6
December(c)	522.1	366.5	171.1	107.6	81.4	40.2	1294.7
FEMALES.							
1933—June ..	125.8	118.2	40.5	26.0	20.5	9.1	340.8
1939—July ..	168.0	142.8	53.2	34.0	26.2	11.6	437.1
1941—November	230.1	194.5	63.9	46.5	32.7	15.3	584.7
1942—June ..	236.1	200.2	68.8	52.4	33.8	16.3	609.1
1943—June ..	255.5	207.1	75.6	53.8	35.8	16.8	646.3
1945—June(b) ..	247.5	193.8	74.9	48.9	35.6	16.6	619.5
December(c)	239.8	186.2	71.9	45.7	34.8	16.1	596.4
PERSONS.							
1933—June ..	506.5	406.8	180.3	106.5	90.6	38.1	1332.9
1939—July ..	697.9	500.4	226.0	140.7	109.1	49.0	1730.2
1941—November	786.4	599.6	231.9	168.4	116.0	54.6	1966.0
1942—June ..	770.6	575.7	234.5	169.3	105.5	53.8	1918.6
1943—June ..	780.1	562.4	243.1	164.5	106.2	53.7	1920.2
1945—June(b) ..	781.8	552.9	243.7	158.5	111.2	56.2	1914.1
December(c)	761.9	552.7	243.0	153.3	116.2	56.3	1891.1

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.
1945, shown for 1st June, subject to revision.

(b) Estimates for end of May.
(c) Subject to revision.

In all States, employment of male wage and salary earners in civilian work, excluding rural and private domestic, was higher in November, 1941, than at the outbreak of war, except in Queensland where there was a slight fall. After that date, the male employment level fell in all States (only slightly in Queensland), changed little in 1943-44 and showed a slight upward trend in 1944-45 (except in South Australia).

After the outbreak of war, female employment (excluding rural workers and domestics in private homes) increased in all States, but at a slower rate during the last half of 1943. The peak level (about 657,000) was reached in December, 1943, but female employment in South Australia had passed its peak slightly earlier. After December, 1943, female employment began to decline slowly.

5. Index of Employment in Factories.—The index is based on the results of annual factory censuses. For the purposes of these censuses "factories" include all industrial establishments in which four or more hands are employed, or in which power other than hand is used. The index of factory employment refers to employees (including managers, overseers, clerks, etc., but not sales and delivery staffs) who are on factory pay-rolls at the middle of each month. In anticipation of the results of the annual factory censuses, estimates of employment based mainly on Pay-roll Tax returns, are made monthly, and are revised as the results of the factory censuses become available. A provisional index of factory employment is therefore available for recent months and the latest figures are published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*. The estimated numbers of persons employed in factories in each State are also shown.

Detailed statistics of factory employment derived from the annual factory censuses are published in the *Production Bulletin* issued by this Bureau.

6. Index of Employment in Retail Stores.—Index numbers are available for each State and the Commonwealth and are published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*. Pay-roll Tax returns, on which the index numbers are based, commenced in July, 1941, and cover all stores engaged principally in retail trade and paying £20 per week or more in wages and salaries.

§ 2. Unemployment.

1. Total Persons Unemployed.—The total number of persons unemployed has been recorded only at the dates of the various censuses. The Census records include all persons who state that they are unemployed, and distinguish between unemployment on account of sickness, accident, scarcity of work, industrial dispute, and all other causes combined. The following table sets out the number of unemployed at the Censuses of 1911, 1921 and 1933, the National Register, 1939, the Civilian Register, 1943, and the Occupation Survey, 1945, together with the percentage which the unemployed bore at each time to all wage and salary earners of the same sex comprising those estimated to be in employment and those unemployed. Of the total wage and salary earners shown below as being unemployed at the Census of 30th June, 1933, 1.4 per cent. was on account of sickness and accident.

Unemployment (all causes): Australia.

Year and Month.	Wage and Salary Earners Unemployed.			Percentage of Wage and Salary Earners Unemployed.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
	'000.	'000.	'000.	%	%	%
1911—April (Census)	48.0	8.3	56.3	4.3	2.7	4.0
1921—April ..	139.4	21.5	160.9	10.7	5.7	9.6
1933—June (a) ..	460.3	103.1	563.4	27.9	19.1	25.8
1939—July (b) ..	264.0	34.0	298.0	15.0	5.7	12.6
1943—June (c) ..	19.5	6.3	25.8	1.4	0.9	1.2
1945—June (d) ..	39.9	16.2	56.1	2.7	2.3	2.6

(a) The figures shown for 1933 are in excess of those actually recorded at the Census through an allowance having been made for a number of youths and girls who would normally have been wage and salary earners, but who, on account of the economic depression, having never been employed, were not classed as wage and salary earners. (b) Derived from National Register, 1939. (c) Derived from Civilian Register, 1943. See comment below. (d) Derived from Occupation Survey, 1945.

In 1939, the National Register recorded men aged 18 to 64 years who were unemployed, but the numbers of these were adjusted on account of men who failed to make National Register returns. This information, in conjunction with other data available from various sources, provided an estimate of the total number of males and females unemployed in July, 1939.

The unemployed have been estimated to be approximately 12½ per cent. in July, 1939, 4 per cent. in July, 1941, 1 per cent. in June, 1943, and 2½ per cent. in June, 1945, calculated as a proportion of all available wage and salary earners excluding those absent in the defence forces, but including persons who have become wage and salary earners as a result of war conditions. Under conditions of intensive mobilization of man-power resources for war-time purposes, involuntary unemployment in 1943 and 1945 was practically nil, and unemployment then existing was almost entirely due to sickness, accidents, etc. Owing to absence of specific definition on the civil registration card, the numbers unemployed, as recorded and stated above, cannot be regarded as comparable with Census figures.

2. **Unemployment in Trade Unions.**—(i) *General.*—The collection by this Bureau of information relating to unemployment amongst trade unionists was initiated in 1912, when special inquiries were forwarded to officials of trade unions throughout Australia for particulars for that year, and for information relating to previous years, as far back as 1891.

From 1913, information concerning the extent of unemployment of trade unionists has been collected at quarterly periods, and the results of the investigations have been published in the *Official Year Book, Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*, and the Labour Reports. Seasonal fluctuations in unemployment have been recorded by collecting returns quarterly since 1st January, 1913. The quarterly figures show the number of persons who were out of work for three days or more during a specified week in each quarter and exclude persons out of work through strikes and lock-outs except those outside the industry who are indirectly affected. The yearly figures quoted represent the average of the four quarters.

The value of the percentages of unemployment derived from Trade Union returns is in the indication they give of the trend of unemployment amongst trade unionists as reported by the secretaries of trade unions.

(ii) *Australia, 1891 to 1945 (June Quarter).*—The following table gives particulars for Australia for the years 1891 to 1945 (June Quarter) in respect of:—

- (a) The number of unions for which returns as to unemployment are available; (b) The number of members of such unions; (c) The number of members unemployed; and (d) The percentage of members unemployed on total number of members.

Unemployment: Australia.

PARTICULARS.	Unions.	Number of Members.	UNEMPLOYED.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1891 (end of year) ..	25	6,445	599	9.3
1896 " " ..	25	4,227	457	10.8
1901 " " ..	39	8,710	574	6.6
1906 " " ..	47	11,299	753	6.7
1911 " " ..	160	67,961	3,171	4.7
1916 (average for year) ..	473	290,075	16,783	5.8
1921 " " ..	449	361,744	40,549	11.2
1922 " " ..	445	380,998	35,238	9.3
1923 " " ..	436	376,557	26,672	7.1
1924 " " ..	413	397,613	35,507	8.9
1925 " " ..	380	391,380	34,620	8.8
1926 " " ..	374	415,397	29,326	7.1
1927 " " ..	375	445,985	31,032	7.0
1928 " " ..	375	423,422	45,669	10.8
1929 " " ..	382	424,093	47,359	11.1
1930 " " ..	395	438,874	84,767	19.3
1931 " " ..	397	430,004	117,866	27.4
1932 " " ..	395	415,434	120,454	29.0
1933 " " ..	394	415,305	104,035	25.1
1934 " " ..	394	424,035	86,865	20.5
1935 " " ..	396	435,938	71,823	16.5
1936 " " ..	392	441,311	53,992	12.2
1937 " " ..	387	449,588	41,823	9.3
1938 " " ..	390	466,325	40,138	8.7
1939 " " ..	396	476,918	45,967	9.7

Unemployment : Australia—continued.

PARTICULARS.	Unions.	Number of Members.	UNEMPLOYED.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1940 " " ..	394	491,352	39,116	8.0
1941 " " ..	395	536,660	20,013	3.7
1942 " " ..	394	613,534	9,754	1.6
1943 " " ..	390	678,713	7,545	1.1
1944 " " ..	389	681,689	8,073	1.2
1943 March Quarter ..	391	665,334	8,021	1.2
June " ..	390	680,292	7,423	1.1
September " ..	390	682,557	7,356	1.1
December " ..	390	686,667	7,381	1.1
1944 March " ..	390	688,381	6,987	1.0
June " ..	389	683,463	9,433	1.4
September " ..	389	680,218	7,947	1.2
December " ..	389	674,695	7,925	1.2
1945 March " ..	388	683,632	7,616	1.1
June " ..	388	679,227	7,795	1.1

(iii) *Australia, by Industries, 1943 and 1944.*—The next table shows the percentages unemployed in industrial groups. Industries or occupations in which employment is stable, such as railways, and those which are subject to exceptional fluctuations, such as wharf labour, agricultural, pastoral, etc., are not included. Other occupations—domestic, hotel employees, etc.—are included in the "Other and Miscellaneous" group, as their returns are not sufficiently representative.

Unemployment in Industrial Groups : Australia, 1943 and 1944.

Industrial Group.	Number Reporting.				Unemployed.			
	Unions.		Members.		Number.		Percentage.	
	1943.	1944.	1943.	1944.	1943.	1944.	1943.	1944.
Manufacturing—								
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	16	16	16,196	16,691	166	167	1.0	1.0
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	62	62	207,384	206,365	1,103	2,319	0.6	1.1
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	54	54	40,532	41,693	1,248	984	3.1	2.3
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	22	22	59,043	61,921	517	563	0.9	0.9
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	12	12	23,175	23,679	44	76	0.2	0.3
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	64	64	81,719	71,406	775	777	0.9	1.1
VII. Building ..	46	46	62,590	61,746	849	857	1.3	1.4
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	22	22	28,538	28,153	1,006	844	3.5	3.0
X. Land Transport other than Railway and Tramway Services ..	13	13	22,703	23,105	319	376	1.4	1.6
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous ..	79	78	136,833	146,925	1,518	1,110	1.1	0.7
All Groups ..	390	389	678,713	681,684	7,545	8,073	1.1	1.2

(iv) *Australia, by Industries, September Quarter 1939, and Quarterly, 1943 to June, 1945.*—The following table gives for various industrial groups

the percentages of members of trade unions returned as unemployed from the September quarter of 1943 to the June quarter of 1945. The percentage of unemployed in the September quarter 1939 is also inserted for purposes of comparison.

Unemployment : Percentages by Industries, Australia.

Industrial Group.	1939.	1943.		1944.				1945.	
	Sept. Qtr.	Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	March Qtr.	June Qtr.	Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	March Qtr.	June Qtr.
Manufacturing—									
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. . .	18.1	1.3	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.7
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . .	8.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.7	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.9
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . .	18.4	3.1	2.4	2.3	3.0	1.8	2.3	2.5	2.5
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . .	13.3	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.8
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	5.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
VI. Other Manufacturing . . .	9.9	0.9	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.7	1.8
VII. Building . . .	9.3	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.0	1.2
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. . .	12.6	3.5	3.3	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.0
X. Other Land Transport . . .	8.7	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.8	2.0	2.7	3.2
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous . .	7.4	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.5
AUSTRALIA . . .	10.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1

(v) *States, 1943 and 1944.*—In making interstate comparisons of unemployment percentages, allowance must be made for the circumstance that the industries included in the returns from trade unions are not quite identical in the various States, and that for some States the returns are a more representative sample than for others. The State percentages shown below, therefore, should not be read as indicating the relative degree of unemployment amongst unionists in the individual States but as an indication of the trend of unemployment as reported by the Trade Unions. The figures in the following table show the position in each State for 1943 and 1944:—

Unemployment : 1943 and 1944.

State.	Unions Reporting.				Unemployed.			
	Number.		Members.		Number.		Percentage.	
	1943.	1944.	1943.	1944.	1943.	1944.	1943.	1944.
New South Wales . .	112	111	291,827	291,683	3,951	4,608	1.4	1.6
Victoria . .	77	77	196,784	194,387	1,356	1,634	0.7	0.8
Queensland . .	45	45	81,901	86,751	976	628	1.2	0.7
South Australia . .	55	55	61,830	60,210	585	605	0.9	1.0
Western Australia . .	67	67	32,589	33,655	504	485	1.5	1.4
Tasmania . .	34	34	13,782	14,998	173	113	1.3	0.7
Australia . .	390	389	678,713	681,684	7,545	8,073	1.1	1.2

(vi) *States, 1931 to 1944 and Quarterly 1941 to June, 1945.*—The results of the quarterly investigations as to unemployment in the years 1913 to 1940 were published in previous issues of this Report and in the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*. The following table shows for each State the

percentage of members of trade unions returned as unemployed for the years 1931 to 1944 and quarterly from 1941 to 1945 :—

Unemployment : Percentages.

Period.	N.S.W.	Victoria	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Australia.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1931 Year	30.8	25.8	16.2	32.5	27.3	26.1	27.4
1932 "	32.5	26.5	18.8	34.0	29.5	25.9	29.9
1933 "	28.9	22.3	15.3	29.9	24.8	18.6	25.1
1934 "	24.7	17.4	11.7	25.6	17.8	17.4	20.5
1935 "	20.6	14.0	8.7	17.6	13.4	13.2	16.5
1936 "	15.4	10.7	7.8	10.8	8.1	9.8	12.2
1937 "	10.9	9.0	7.3	8.2	5.6	7.3	9.5
1938 "	9.9	8.6	6.4	8.3	5.7	7.9	8.7
1939 "	11.0	10.4	5.9	9.3	7.1	8.1	9.7
1940 "	11.0	5.8	5.5	7.0	5.6	5.2	8.0
1941 "	4.7	2.5	4.5	2.7	2.9	3.3	3.7
1942 "	1.8	1.2	2.3	1.1	1.6	0.8	1.6
1943 "	1.4	0.7	1.2	0.9	1.5	1.3	1.1
1944 "	1.6	0.8	0.7	1.0	1.5	0.8	1.2
1941 March Qtr. ..	7.0	3.2	5.9	3.9	4.3	3.6	5.3
June "	4.5	2.4	4.2	2.8	3.1	2.4	3.6
Sept. "	4.0	2.2	4.1	2.3	2.4	2.6	3.2
Dec. "	3.5	2.1	3.8	1.8	1.8	4.5	2.9
1942 March Qtr. ..	2.0	1.4	3.2	1.0	1.7	0.7	1.8
June "	1.9	1.2	2.6	1.3	1.7	0.6	1.7
Sept. "	1.9	1.2	1.8	1.1	1.8	0.9	1.6
Dec. "	1.5	0.9	1.6	0.9	1.3	0.8	1.3
1943 March Qtr. ..	1.4	0.8	1.5	1.0	1.6	1.3	1.2
June "	1.3	0.6	1.3	1.0	1.5	1.2	1.1
Sept. "	1.3	0.7	1.1	0.9	1.7	1.2	1.1
Dec. "	1.4	0.7	0.9	0.8	1.4	1.4	1.1
1944 March Qtr. ..	1.3	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.5	0.7	1.0
June "	1.9	0.9	0.7	1.3	1.9	0.7	1.4
Sept. "	1.6	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.2	0.9	1.2
Dec. "	1.6	0.9	0.6	0.9	1.2	0.7	1.2
1945 March Qtr. ..	1.5	0.8	0.5	1.2	1.0	0.7	1.1
June "	1.5	0.8	0.6	1.5	1.1	0.8	1.1

(vii) *Causes of Unemployment.*—In earlier issues of the Labour Report tables were published showing the percentage of members of unions unemployed through—(a) lack of work; (b) sickness and accident; and (c) other causes. The returns from trade unions for past years show that while the percentage unemployed through lack of work has varied considerably according to the state of trade during the period, the percentages of members unemployed through sickness and accident, and through other causes, have remained uniform at 0.7 per cent. and 0.2 per cent., respectively.

§ 3. Commonwealth Employment Service.

A Commonwealth Employment Service has been established under Section 47 of the Re-establishment and Employment Act, 1945. The service is a division of the Department of Labour and National Service and is under the control of a Director of Employment. The general function of the service is set out in section 48 of the Act as being to provide services and facilities in relation to employment for the benefit of persons seeking to become employed, to change employment or to engage labour, and to provide facilities to assist in bringing about and maintaining a high and stable level of employment throughout the Commonwealth, and a number of functions are mentioned specifically in connexion with the re-establishment of

ex-servicemen and war workers. The service also assists in the administration of the *Unemployment and Sickness Benefits Act* 1944, and all persons who wish to claim unemployment benefits must register with the appropriate employment office which is responsible for checking the claim and arranging for payment of benefit if appropriate and if no suitable employment can be offered to the applicant.

The service has been founded on the decentralised organization built up by the Manpower Directorate during the war. The Central Office is in Sydney, and there are State Head Offices in each of the Capital Cities. Apart from these, 152 local offices have been established in suburban and country areas, distributed as follows:—New South Wales, 58, Victoria, 39, Queensland, 20, South Australia, 15, Western Australia, 15, Tasmania, 5.

§ 4. State Labour Exchanges.

With the setting up of the Commonwealth Employment Service referred to in the preceding section most of the State Labour Exchange Organizations existing previously have been superseded. Details concerning the organization and administration of these exchanges in the several States are given in Labour Report No. 30, page 133.

§ 5. Commonwealth Unemployment and Sickness Benefits.

1. **General.**—A very important addition was made to Commonwealth social legislation when the Unemployment and Sickness Benefits Act received the Royal Assent on 5th April, 1944.

The Act came into operation on 1st July, 1945, and is financed from the National Welfare Fund. The first payments were made on 19th July, 1945.

Persons eligible include all males between the ages of 16 and 65 years and all females between the ages of 16 and 60 years who have lived in Australia for the twelve months immediately preceding a claim for benefit and who are not qualified to receive a Service pension under the Soldier's Repatriation Act or an invalid, old-age or widows' pension.

The payment of unemployment benefit is subject to the claimant being capable of undertaking and willing to accept suitable employment. Except where the applicant lives in remote or inaccessible areas of Australia or where for some good reason it is impossible to do so, the payment of sickness benefit is subject to the production of a medical certificate or some other satisfactory evidence.

2. **Rate of Benefits.**—The rates of benefits for both unemployment and sickness are as follows:—

Unmarried male or female—		s.	d.
16 years and under 17 years	.. ..	15	0 per week.
17 " " " 18 years	.. ..	15	0 per week.
18 " " " 21 years	.. ..	20	0 per week.
21 years and over	.. ..	25	0 per week.

A married person whether adult or minor, may receive an additional 20s. per week for a dependent spouse and 5s. per week for an unendowed child.

All benefits are subject to a means test which disregards the value of property owned by claimant and permits the possession of income up to the following amounts:—

Unmarried male and female—		s.	d.
16 years and under 17 years	.. ..	5	0 per week.
17 " " " 18 years	.. ..	10	0 per week.
18 " " " 21 years	.. ..	15	0 per week.
In all other cases	.. ..	20	0 per week.

3. Means Test.—In applying the means test for sickness benefit, any amount up to 20s. per week received by claimant from a friendly society or other approved benefit society is disregarded. For the purpose of calculating unemployment benefit, the income of the family group is taken into account, but in the case of sickness benefit the claimant's income only will be considered in determining whether there shall be reduction in benefit because of the possession of other income.

Where a person is entitled to some other payment such as war pension or workers' compensation in respect of the disability for which he claims sickness benefit, payment will be made only to the extent to which such other payment is less than the amount of benefit.

In the case of unemployment the Act provides for payment of benefit for the duration of the unemployment, and in the case of sickness for the duration of temporary incapacity. Where incapacity through sickness becomes permanent, an invalid pension may be granted, subject to the conditions governing the grant of invalid pensions.

4. Waiting Period.—There is a waiting period of seven days in respect of which unemployment or sickness benefit is not payable.

5. Special Benefit.—In cases of hardship where a person is not qualified for either sickness or unemployment benefit by reason of his inability to comply with one or other of the statutory requirements, a special benefit, at a rate not exceeding that which might otherwise have been payable, may be authorized.

6. Administration.—For convenience of administration, National Service Officers act as Registrars and in their offices are officers of the Department of Social Services to attend to the detailed duties. Payment of benefits is made by cheque issued by the Deputy-Director of Social Services in the metropolitan areas and by Registrars in country districts.

§ 6. Relief of Unemployment.

The steps taken by the Commonwealth and State Governments during the depression commencing in 1930 to provide relief of unemployment, and the legislation enacted in the years 1930 to 1941, are briefly reviewed in the various Labour Reports up to No. 31, and particulars relating to the year 1941 were shown on pages 105 to 125 of No. 31, 1941.

With the enormous expansion of industry over the war-time period, however, practically all employable persons were absorbed, and the few remaining merely represented the small body of unemployables always present in the community for whom the regular eleemosynary reliefs are available.

§ 7. Industrial Disputes.

1. General.—The collection of information regarding industrial disputes (strikes and lockouts) in Australia was initiated by this Bureau at the beginning of the year 1913, and particulars relating thereto, for the first complete year, were published in Labour Report No. 5, Section XI. An examination of official reports, newspapers, and other publications showed, however, that there was insufficient material for the compilation of complete information for years prior to 1913.

Annual figures for years since 1913 are contained in Labour Reports Nos. 6 to 33 while particulars for the year 1944 are shown in the following table.

2. **Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1944.**—The following tables deal with industrial disputes involving stoppage of work during the year 1944 in industrial groups.

The number of industrial disputes recorded during 1944 was 941, as compared with 785 during the previous year. In New South Wales 801 disputes occurred in 1944, 648 of which involved workpeople engaged in the coal-mining industry. Working days lost during 1944 amounted to 912,752 for all disputes in Australia, as compared with 990,151 working days lost during 1943. The estimated loss of wages was £1,111,729 in 1944, as compared with £1,153,506 for the year 1943.

Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1944.

Class.	Industrial Group.	Num-ber.	Estab-lish-ments In-volved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Esti-mated Loss in Wages.
				Directly	In-directly.	Total.		
New South Wales—								
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	57	60	17,495	1,647	19,142	77,556	£ 81,300
III.	Food, drink, etc.	23	23	7,528	546	8,074	24,641	21,413
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. . . .	3	3	1,896	67	1,963	2,083	1,997
V.	Books, printing, etc.	2	5	2,379	..	2,379	19,193	20,011
VI.	Other manufacturing	21	26	7,380	206	7,586	20,028	20,808
VII.	Building	3	3	218	..	218	631	711
VIII.	(a) Coal-mining	648	693	151,792	3,973	155,765	378,591	560,757
	(b) Other mining, quarries, etc.	5	34	4,400	975	5,375	15,378	18,609
IX.	Railway and tramway services	9	9	521	..	521	703	660
X.	Other land transport	4	4	10,366	..	10,366	10,422	10,830
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. . .	10	10	3,686	..	3,686	8,479	10,547
XII.	Pastoral, agricultural, etc. . .	2	4	114	20	134	406	650
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc.	5	18	2,024	741	2,765	10,019	4,039
XIV.	Miscellaneous	9	29	3,208	..	3,208	7,175	8,048
Total		801	921	213,007	8,175	221,182	575,305	760,380
Victoria—								
I.	Wood, furniture, etc.	1	1	45	..	45	90	100
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	15	18	2,844	150	2,994	19,872	24,043
III.	Food, drink, etc.	13	23	4,229	84	4,313	22,508	21,222
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc.	7	18	848	..	848	9,474	6,885
VI.	Other manufacturing	9	9	1,473	50	1,523	5,416	5,275
VII.	Building	5	10	557	10	567	6,506	6,687
IX.	Railway and tramway services	2	2	2,752	..	2,752	2,752	3,011
XIV.	Miscellaneous	1	8	600	..	600	6,000	6,000
Total		53	89	13,348	294	13,642	72,618	73,223
Queensland—								
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	3	3	763	..	763	4,470	5,520
III.	Food, drink, etc.	8	10	4,604	..	4,604	36,819	35,695
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc.	2	6	507	..	507	776	500
VII.	Building	2	2	589	..	589	13,347	14,931
VIII.	(a) Coal-mining	6	9	1,923	..	1,923	7,195	10,476
XIV.	Miscellaneous	2	2	107	..	107	477	279
Total		23	32	8,493	..	8,493	63,084	67,401
South Australia—								
I.	Wood, furniture, etc.	1	1	25	..	25	37	21
III.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	12	12	7,196	..	7,196	52,046	56,219
III.	Food, drink, etc.	4	45	1,258	..	1,258	3,300	3,245
VI.	Other manufacturing	4	4	590	43	633	7,107	1,227
VII.	Building	1	1	120	..	120	720	800
VIII.	(a) Coal-mining	1	1	52	..	52	104	122
	(b) Other mining, quarries, etc.	1	1	59	..	59	59	40
IX.	Railway and tramway services	4	4	8,767	3,187	11,954	17,648	18,285
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. . .	1	1	57	..	57	57	61
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc.	1	1	126	..	126	1,008	594
Total		30	71	18,250	3,230	21,480	76,086	80,614

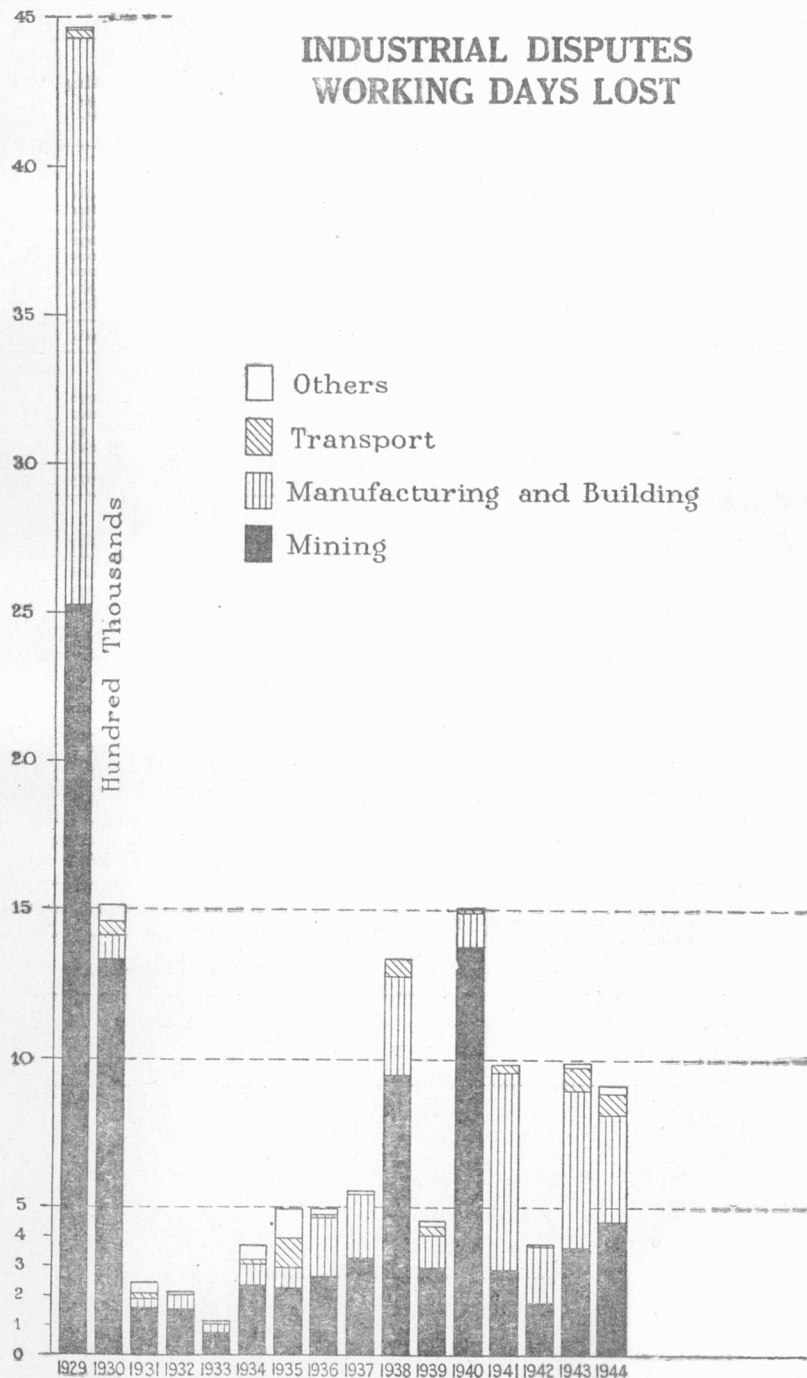
Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1944—continued.

Class.	Industrial Group.	Num- ber.	Estab- lish- ments In- volved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Esti- mated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	In- directly.	Total.		
Western Australia—								
I.	Wood, furniture, etc. ..	2	9	444	..	444	1,484	£ 1,445
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc. ..	5	24	396	..	396	644	651
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	5	17	549	17	566	3,662	3,879
VIII.	(a) Coal-mining ..	5	5	1,098	..	1,098	3,692	5,005
	(b) Other mining, quarries, etc. ..	1	1	19	950	969	45,000	46,000
IX.	Railway and tramway services ..	5	5	2,607	2,900	5,507	8,210	5,158
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	4	11	1,516	..	1,516	26,414	30,623
XIV.	Miscellaneous ..	3	3	532	..	532	878	840
Total ..		30	75	7,161	3,867	11,028	89,984	93,601
Tasmania—								
I.	Wood, furniture, etc. ..	1	1	18	..	18	198	200
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc. ..	1	1	352	..	352	35,200	36,000
VIII.	(b) Other mining, quarries, etc. ..	1	1	49	..	49	49	60
	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	1	1	114	..	114	228	250
Total ..		4	4	533	..	533	35,675	36,510
Australia—								
I.	Wood, furniture, etc. ..	5	12	532	..	532	1,809	1,766
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc. ..	93	118	29,046	1,797	30,843	189,788	203,733
III.	Food, drink, etc. ..	48	101	17,619	630	18,249	87,268	81,575
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	12	27	3,251	67	3,318	12,333	9,382
V.	Books, printing, etc. ..	2	5	2,370	..	2,379	19,193	20,111
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	39	56	9,992	316	10,308	30,213	31,189
VII.	Building ..	11	16	1,484	10	1,494	21,204	23,129
VIII.	(a) Coal-mining ..	660	708	154,865	3,973	158,838	389,582	576,360
	(b) Other mining, quarries, etc. ..	8	37	4,527	1,925	6,452	60,486	64,709
IX.	Railway and tramway services ..	20	20	14,647	6,087	20,734	29,313	27,114
X.	Other land transport ..	4	4	10,366	..	10,366	10,422	10,830
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	16	23	5,373	..	5,373	35,178	41,481
XII.	Pastoral, agricultural, etc. ..	2	4	114	20	134	406	650
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. ..	6	19	2,150	741	2,891	11,027	4,633
XIV.	Miscellaneous ..	15	42	4,447	..	4,447	14,530	15,167
Total (a) ..		941	1,192	260,792	15,566	276,358	912,752	1,111,729

(a) The following disputes commenced in, and were uncompleted at, the end of the year 1943, and in respect of "Number of Disputes", and "Establishments Involved" are duplicated in the figures for 1944.

State.	Number of Disputes.	Establish- ments Involved.	Number of Workpeople Involved.		
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
New South Wales	1	1	149	..	149
Western Australia	1	1	19	950	969

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES WORKING DAYS LOST



EXPLANATION.—The scale refers to working days lost in hundred thousands. Thus, taking the year 1929, and comparing the sections with the scale, it will be seen that about 2,528,000 working days were lost in Mining, 1,901,000 in Manufacturing and Building, 30,000 in Transport, and about 3,000 in other industries. Total, 4,462,000 days.

3. Industrial Disputes, 1939 to 1944.—(i) *Australia*.—The following table shows in industrial groups the number of industrial disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the losses in working days and wages for each of the years 1939 to 1944, and the aggregate for the period 1940-44:—

Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Year.	Manu- facturing. (Groups I. to VI.)	Building. (Group VII.)	Mining. (Group VIII.)		Transport. Land and Sea. (Groups IX. to XI.)	Miscel- laneous. (Groups XII. to XIV.)	ALL GROUPS.
			Coal- mining.	Other Mining.			
NUMBER.							
1939 ..	20	3	362	4	6	21	416
1940 ..	36	10	286	3	10	5	350
1941 ..	135	12	395	4	18	3	567
1942 ..	120	13	447	1	12	9	602
1943 ..	179	13	550	4	22	17	785
1944 ..	199	11	660	8	40	23	941
1940-44 ..	669	59	2,338	20	102	57	3,245

WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.

1939 ..	8,818	57	137,792	900	2,017	3,246	152,830
1940 ..	15,986	2,447	167,840	492	3,514	2,318	192,597
1941 ..	96,999	2,294	141,235	2,266	5,188	125	248,107
1942 ..	47,689	1,900	112,031	306	6,468	869	169,263
1943 ..	106,043	19,976	148,640	1,865	12,293	6,377	206,103
1944 ..	65,629	1,494	158,838	6,452	36,473	7,472	276,358
1940-44 ..	333,246	28,111	728,593	11,381	63,936	17,161	1,182,428

WORKING DAYS LOST.

1939 ..	108,709	563	291,067	3,805	35,016	19,994	459,154
1940 ..	81,799	32,746	1,371,382	5,068	10,705	5,552	1,507,252
1941 ..	647,730	18,123	275,605	12,882	29,711	123	984,174
1942 ..	187,049	6,450	177,565	1,224	3,924	1,983	378,195
1943 ..	407,524	125,247	326,231	39,764	79,529	11,856	990,151
1944 ..	340,604	21,204	389,582	60,486	74,913	25,963	912,752
1940-44 ..	1,664,706	203,770	2,540,365	119,424	198,782	45,477	4,772,524

ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.

1939 ..	£ 83,540	£ 424	£ 335,033	£ 4,728	£ 22,114	£ 9,877	£ 455,716
1940 ..	75,108	27,491	1,595,234	6,146	8,333	3,809	1,716,121
1941 ..	616,621	20,238	320,945	15,381	26,795	122	1,000,102
1942 ..	179,880	7,193	260,868	1,400	5,289	1,460	456,090
1943 ..	385,348	149,344	480,008	46,900	82,941	8,465	1,153,506
1944 ..	347,656	23,129	576,360	64,709	79,425	20,450	1,111,729
1940-44 ..	1,605,113	227,395	3,233,415	134,536	202,783	34,306	5,437,548

Satisfactory comparisons of the frequency of industrial disputes in classified industries can be made only after omitting those which are recorded for coal-mining (Group VIII.). For the year 1944 these disputes represented 70 per cent. of the total for the year.

During the past five years, working days lost through dislocations of work involving employees in coal-mining numbered 2,540,365, representing 53 per cent. of the total loss of working days for the period. The majority of these disputes occurred in New South Wales. In making comparisons regarding the number and magnitude of disputes in this particular class it should be noted that the number of workers engaged in the coal-mining industry is very much larger in New South Wales than in any other State.

(ii) *States.*—The number of industrial disputes in each State during the years 1939 and 1941 to 1944, together with the workpeople involved, the working days lost, and the estimated loss in wages are given in the following table :—

Industrial Disputes : States.

State or Territory.	Year.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
New South Wales ..	1939	386	460	139,301	9,230	148,531	410,183	£ 419,330
	1941	513	773	213,440	6,671	220,111	778,079	809,879
	1942	552	573	148,203	2,892	151,095	320,135	401,613
	1943	689	2,771	250,754	5,623	256,377	799,511	971,069
	1944	801	921	213,007	8,175	221,182	575,305	760,380
Victoria ..	1939	10	10	1,989	180	2,169	27,313	19,946
	1941	22	595	19,806	311	20,117	139,167	121,193
	1942	20	26	11,979	140	12,119	35,658	31,009
	1943	40	1,070	19,042	217	19,259	76,686	65,409
	1944	53	89	13,348	294	13,642	72,618	73,223
Queensland..	1939	5	6	373	2	375	1,870	1,753
	1941	17	113	3,392	280	3,672	47,826	48,574
	1942	6	6	370	52	422	2,702	2,145
	1943	20	114	8,990	302	9,292	58,895	62,629
	1944	23	32	8,493	..	8,493	63,084	67,401
South Australia ..	1939	2	2	170	5	175	1,880	1,416
	1941	11	51	3,704	..	3,704	17,056	18,700
	1942	13	52	3,617	..	3,617	10,494	11,656
	1943	24	442	7,602	841	8,443	19,420	13,490
	1944	30	71	18,250	3,230	21,480	76,086	80,614
Western Australia ..	1939	7	7	1,108	145	1,253	14,100	9,578
	1941	3	7	303	..	303	846	931
	1942	8	85	1,797	12	1,809	8,855	9,872
	1943	10	82	1,594	950	2,544	38,438	40,733
	1944	30	75	7,161	3,867	11,028	89,984	93,601
Tasmania ..	1939	4	4	53	..	53	166	93
	1941	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1942	2	2	51	..	51	51	45
	1943	2	2	46	142	188	201	176
	1944	4	4	533	..	533	35,675	36,510
Northern Territory ..	1939	2	16	234	40	274	3,642	3,600
	1941	1	1	200	..	200	600	825
	1942	1	1	150	..	150	300	350
	1943	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1944	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Aust. Cap. Territory..	1939	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1941	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1942	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1943	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1944	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Australia ..	1939	416	505	143,228	9,602	152,830	450,154	455,716
	1941	567	1,540	240,845	7,262	248,107	981,174	1,000,102
	1942	602	745	166,167	3,096	169,263	378,195	456,090
	1943	785	4,481	288,028	8,075	296,103	990,151	1,153,506
	1944	941	1,192	260,792	15,566	276,358	912,752	1,111,729

4. *Duration of Industrial Disputes.*—(i) *General.*—The duration of each industrial dispute involving a loss of work, i.e., the time between the cessation and resumption of work, has been calculated in working days, exclusive of

Sundays and holidays, except where the establishment involved carries on a continuous process (e.g., Metal Smelting and Cement Manufacture). The following limitations of time have been adopted :—(a) One day and less ; (b) two days and more than one day ; (c) three days and more than two days ; (d) over three days and under six days (the latter considered as constituting one week) ; (e) one week and under two weeks ; (f) two weeks and under four weeks ; (g) four weeks and under eight weeks ; and (h) eight weeks and over.

(ii) *Australia*—1939 to 1944.—Particulars of industrial disputes, according to limits of duration, for Australia for the years 1939 and 1941 to 1944 are given in the following table :—

Duration of Industrial Disputes : Australia.

Limits of Duration.	Year.	Number.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
							£
1 day and less	1939	230	96,184	1,191	97,375	97,375	106,970
	1941	318	131,628	4,117	135,745	135,545	164,528
	1942	401	108,798	1,514	110,312	106,450	148,757
	1943	461	167,539	1,855	169,394	168,220	211,654
	1944	524	136,497	9,856	146,353	143,859	170,389
2 days and more than 1 day	1939	60	16,398	872	17,270	34,540	35,648
	1941	90	30,018	387	30,405	60,728	68,961
	1942	76	24,597	38	24,635	47,633	58,025
	1943	107	32,337	312	32,649	64,278	78,876
	1944	136	39,276	1,994	41,270	77,704	97,995
3 days and more than 2 days	1939	38	10,103	1,374	11,477	34,431	36,427
	1941	34	8,230	337	8,567	25,701	26,108
	1942	29	7,885	31	7,916	23,634	28,287
	1943	59	18,445	1,666	20,051	59,864	73,869
	1944	67	21,949	772	22,721	67,140	86,073
Over 3 days and less than 1 week (6 days)	1939	34	7,540	404	7,944	36,387	37,056
	1941	39	16,200	319	16,519	71,577	74,172
	1942	38	8,133	689	8,822	38,518	44,733
	1943	64	28,159	2,507	30,666	137,010	175,832
	1944	87	23,961	6	23,967	105,599	142,327
1 week and less than 2 weeks	1939	34	6,864	2,169	9,033	75,323	67,736
	1941	51	23,291	557	23,848	191,604	180,351
	1942	39	13,837	342	14,179	113,870	116,591
	1943	52	15,041	419	15,460	130,791	141,057
	1944	90	27,819	826	28,645	250,148	282,699
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks	1939	10	5,002	3,224	8,226	116,182	116,882
	1941	21	28,269	851	29,120	374,942	352,918
	1942	17	2,450	482	2,932	36,790	44,852
	1943	30	23,767	403	24,170	264,312	290,058
	1944	29	10,298	1,137	11,435	195,609	253,177
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks	1939	6	618	307	925	25,463	15,008
	1941	11	2,682	..	2,682	88,053	101,627
	1942	2	467	..	467	11,300	14,845
	1943	7	1,330	23	1,353	41,369	52,675
	1944	7	973	25	998	27,693	33,069
8 weeks and over	1939	4	519	61	580	39,453	39,089
	1941	3	527	694	1,221	36,024	31,347
	1942	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1943	5	1,410	950	2,360	124,307	129,485
	1944	1	19	950	969	45,000	46,000
Total	1939	416	143,228	9,602	152,830	459,154	455,716
	1941	567	240,845	7,262	248,107	984,174	1,000,102
	1942	602	166,167	3,096	169,263	378,195	456,090
	1943	785	288,028	8,075	296,103	990,151	1,153,506
	1944	941	260,792	15,566	276,358	912,752	1,111,729

5. **Causes of Industrial Disputes.**—(i) *General.*—The reasons alleged by employers and employees for a stoppage of work do not in every instance agree in detail. In such instances additional information is sought to verify or support the contention of either side. On occasions, the alleged reason is of a twofold character, and, where this is the case, the claim which is fully or partially satisfied and results in a resumption of work is taken to be the principal cause of the dispute. For the purpose of classification these causes (or objects) of industrial disputes are grouped under seven main headings, namely :—(1) Wages ; (2) hours of labour ; (3) trade unionism ; (4) employment of particular classes or persons ; (5) working conditions ; (6) sympathy ; and (7) other causes.* The first three groups are subdivided to meet the varying phases of the causes of disputes under each of the main headings.

(ii) *Causes of Disputes, Australia, 1913 and 1938 to 1944.*—The following table gives particulars of industrial disputes according to causes for the years specified.

Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Causes of Disputes.	1913.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
NUMBER.								
1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	42	10	13	16	46	8	27	18
(b) Against decrease ..	4	2	4	1	4	2	1	1
(c) Other wage questions	31	67	58	54	102	107	132	134
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	3	2	12	..	2	1	5	1
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	7	1	9	20	10	8	11	16
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	8	5	1	2	8	9	6	13
(b) Other union questions	5	43	48	34	28	24	30	32
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	44	106	107	80	154	139	194	230
5. Working conditions ..	51	73	90	46	81	132	200	266
6. Sympathy ..	5	4	1	7	15	14	21	19
7. Other causes ..	8	63	73	90	117	158	158	211
Total ..	208	376	416	350	567	602	785	941

WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.

1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	8,633	967	4,384	4,242	12,157	2,150	10,441	4,440
(b) Against decrease ..	563	914	279	296	848	957	44	300
(c) Other wage questions	7,160	21,399	17,094	17,841	32,403	32,025	52,055	33,566
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	460	4,050	4,150	..	1,432	85	6,905	24
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	1,819	36	3,383	7,635	3,720	1,630	5,430	7,912
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	5,370	1,659	21	254	912	1,797	2,944	3,788
(b) Other union questions	1,418	13,241	16,030	10,314	10,392	5,302	10,799	7,091
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	11,370	30,020	28,621	28,955	43,889	41,402	60,391	59,576
5. Working conditions ..	10,785	40,206	28,092	14,614	30,051	29,908	45,698	73,733
6. Sympathy ..	947	1,260	2,600	4,973	10,855	7,977	11,593	11,118
7. Other causes ..	1,758	30,202	48,106	103,473	101,448	46,030	89,803	74,810
Total ..	50,283	143,954	152,330	192,597	248,107	169,263	296,103	276,358

* The heading "Other causes" has been adopted to meet various sets of circumstances which mainly arise in connexion with stoppages which are not concerted movements, and include among others the following:—(a) During the course of a meeting of miners, the wheelers return their horses to the stables and leave the colliery ; (b) disputes (not necessarily connected with industrial matters which the employer can control) arise between wheelers and clippers, or any two sets of workers, and sufficient workmen are not available to work the mine to its full capacity.

Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia—continued.

Causes of Disputes.	1913.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
WORKING DAYS LOST.								
3. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	100,069	32,390	24,115	25,590	106,518	7,403	44,079	14,630
(b) Against decrease ..	9,438	7,340	4,472	592	1,368	13,991	44	450
(c) Other wage questions	78,183	116,468	67,550	92,473	111,258	98,669	154,339	124,256
4. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	2,774	34,300	21,636	..	4,232	85	13,248	72
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	15,111	900	10,752	20,977	12,781	2,607	27,351	30,444
5. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	91,002	2,906	63	1,866	5,852	5,583	49,398	10,118
(b) Other union questions	32,388	80,280	52,086	15,553	62,870	9,179	43,851	29,203
6. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	191,723	104,454	81,101	105,166	112,360	98,658	274,102	179,521
7. Working conditions ..	73,562	744,147	108,400	33,709	122,279	66,348	96,171	215,546
8. Sympathy ..	24,066	4,440	2,600	16,196	18,830	12,593	16,436	81,533
9. Other causes ..	5,212	210,369	86,370	1,195,130	425,826	63,079	271,132	226,979
Total ..	623,528	1,337,994	1,591,154	1,507,252	984,174	378,195	990,151	912,752

The main causes of industrial disputes are “wage” questions, “working conditions”, and “employment of particular classes or persons”.

The number of disputes concerning “wages” in 1944 was 153, representing 16 per cent. of the total. The heading “Employment of particular classes or persons” includes stoppages of work for the purpose of protesting against the dismissal of fellow workpeople who were considered to have been unfairly treated or victimized. This class of dispute occurs frequently in the coal-mining industry. Disputes over “Employment” questions in 1944 numbered 230, or 24 per cent. of the total, and over “Working Conditions” 266, or 28 per cent. Disputes classified under these three headings numbered 649, or 68 per cent. of the total dislocations during the year.

6. Results of Industrial Disputes—(i) General.—The terms or conditions under which a resumption of work is agreed upon are taken as the basis of the result of the dispute and are comprised in one or other of the following four classes:—

(a) In favour of workpeople; (b) In favour of employer; (c) Compromise; (d) Indefinite.

Disputes are considered to result:—(a) In favour of workpeople, when the employees succeed in enforcing compliance with all their demands, or are substantially successful in attaining their principal object, or in resisting a demand made by their employers; (b) In favour of employer, when the demands of the employees are not conceded, or when the employer or employers are substantially successful in enforcing a demand; (c) Compromise, when the employees are successful in enforcing compliance with a part of their demands or in resisting substantially full compliance with the demands of their employer or employers; (d) Indefinite, when, for example, employees cease work owing to some misconception regarding the terms of an award, determination, or agreement, and work is resumed as usual on the matters in dispute being explained; or in cases where a dispute arises in connexion with certain work which is, however, abandoned, even though the employees return to the same establishment to be employed on other work. The results of “Sympathetic” disputes, in which a body of workers cease work with the object of assisting another body of workers in obtaining compliance with some demand, are generally “Indefinite” except when the stoppage is entered upon partially to enforce a demand in which these workers might ultimately benefit.

(ii) *Results in each State, 1944.*—The following tables show the industrial disputes in 1944, classified according to results.

Industrial Disputes : Results 1944(a).

State or Territory.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
New South Wales	196	553	1	51	54,609	142,987	248	23,338	159,015	280,523	1,488	134,279
Victoria ..	21	22	2	7	3,830	5,596	986	3,206	28,076	29,684	9,555	4,727
Queensland ..	13	7	..	3	4,658	2,677	..	1,158	26,925	31,289	..	4,870
South Australia	15	11	..	3	3,408	17,227	..	825	6,102	54,381	..	5,283
Western Australia	12	10	..	7	6,623	2,860	..	405	59,621	7,729	..	2,114
Tasmania ..	3	..	..	1	515	..	..	18	35,477	..	..	198
N. Territory ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
A. C. Territory..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total, Aust. ..	260	603	3	72	73,643	171,347	1,234	28,950	315,216	403,606	11,043	151,471

(a) The following particulars of disputes which were incomplete at 31st December, 1944, should be added to the above figures to effect a balance with those published in the preceding tables :—

State.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.	Working Days Lost.
Victoria.. ..	1	1	24	576
South Australia ..	1	1	20	320
Western Australia ..	1	1	1,140	20,520
Total	3	3	1,184	21,416

(iii) *Australia, 1944.*—The following tables show the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the total number of working days lost in disputes in Australia for the year, 1944, classified according to cause and result of dispute.

Industrial Disputes : Causes and Results, Australia, 1944.(a)

Classified according to Causes and Results.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
Wages—												
(a) For increase ..	8	8	..	2	1,797	2,551	..	92	8,090	6,034	..	506
(b) Against decrease ..	1	..	..	..	300	..	..	..	450	..	..	..
(c) Other Wage questions ..	36	79	1	17	7,259	21,328	798	4,157	28,040	71,536	8,991	15,113
Hours of Labour—												
(a) For reduction ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	24	..	..	..	72
(b) Other disputes re hours	5	9	..	2	1,139	3,290	..	3,483	15,548	6,967	..	7,929
Trade Unionism—												
(a) Against employment of non-unionists	10	2	..	1	3,332	376	..	80	6,589	3,209	..	320
(b) Other union questions ..	5	22	..	5	921	5,088	..	1,082	2,871	9,383	..	16,949
Employment of particular Classes or Persons..	68	150	..	10	16,401	40,083	..	1,932	49,891	105,323	..	3,467
Working conditions ..	108	146	2	10	35,603	31,441	436	6,253	95,526	100,940	2,052	17,028
Sympathy ..	..	..	..	19	..	..	..	11,118	..	..	..	81,533
Other Causes ..	19	187	..	5	6,891	67,190	..	729	108,211	10,214	..	8,554
Total(a) ..	260	603	3	72	73,643	171,347	1,234	28,950	315,216	413,606	11,043	151,471

(a) See note to table above.

(iv) *Australia, 1939 to 1944.*—The table hereunder shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the number of working days lost in disputes in Australia during the six years 1939 to 1944, classified according to results :—

Industrial Disputes : Results, Australia.

Year.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
1939 ..	75	302	19	20	22,517	117,445	6,233	6,635	104,192	256,602	43,569	54,791
1940 ..	99	213	12	24	36,303	128,874	1,800	25,092	162,662	443,682	6,655	885,941
1941 ..	225	287	24	29	74,856	146,031	11,438	15,062	271,539	522,837	93,424	94,464
1942 ..	166	393	9	28	48,848	107,656	2,517	8,013	114,540	201,331	13,041	36,973
1943 ..	202	497	10	74	72,116	190,668	4,481	27,720	279,440	569,522	36,966	74,382
1944 (a) ..	260	603	3	72	73,643	171,347	1,234	28,950	315,216	403,606	11,043	151,471

(a) See note to table on page 116.

Disputes resulting in favour of workpeople exceeded those resulting in favour of employers in earlier years, but since 1916 the position has been reversed. The percentage in favour of employers in 1944 was 64. Many of the disputes in the coal-mining industry are of short duration, and the records show that the workpeople resumed work on antecedent conditions without apparently gaining any concessions. These disputes have been classified as terminating in favour of the employer. A number of disputes in each year resulted in a compromise, while in certain cases the heading "Indefinite" had to be adopted.

7. Methods of Settlement.—(i) *General.*—Methods of settlement have been classified under the following six headings :—

- (i) By negotiation.
- (ii) Under State Industrial Act.
- (iii) Under Commonwealth Arbitration Act.
- (iv) By filling places of workpeople on strike or locked out.
- (v) By closing down establishments permanently.
- (vi) By other methods.

Each of the first five methods indicates some definite action. The sixth, "Other Methods," is more or less indefinite, and is connected with "Other Causes" and relates mainly to resumptions of work at collieries at the next shift, the cause of the stoppages not being in all cases made known officially to the management.

(ii) *Australia, 1913 and 1938 to 1944*—Information for Australia for the years specified is given hereunder :—

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
NUMBER OF DISPUTES.								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	119	245	277	192	245	233	356	387
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	17	17	17	12	22	117	100	130
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	19	3	5	6	9	9	13	19
By reference to Board or Court ..	22	9	2	7	56	16	30	25
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	4	9	6	25	57	43	38	72
By Filling Places of Work-people on Strike or Locked out ..	13	..	1	..	3	..	..	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	1
By other methods ..	13	92	106	105	173	178	246	304
Total ..	208	375	416	348	565	596	783	938

WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.

Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	23,357	70,481	80,195	55,084	72,865	57,556	101,169	87,122
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	3,172	4,845	2,489	3,520	5,757	42,072	43,556	34,942
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	6,505	1,844	4,925	2,766	3,336	2,259	4,583	12,684
By reference to Board or Court ..	12,774	5,519	429	2,617	21,788	4,642	15,096	10,970
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	659	21,289	3,268	35,203	55,019	14,873	12,251	27,966
By Filling Places of Work-people on Strike or Locked out ..	658	..	20	..	340	..	..	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	170	..	178	13	..	..	..	..
By other methods ..	2,988	38,313	61,326	92,866	88,282	46,532	118,330	101,471
Total ..	50,283	142,291	152,830	192,069	247,387	167,934	294,985	275,174

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes—Australia—continued.

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944. (a)
WORKING DAYS LOST.								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	94,400	203,175	245,709	152,848	159,347	98,650	244,920	176,569
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	26,335	64,220	52,943	21,018	42,563	115,727	246,334	150,431
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	187,871	11,796	35,647	8,665	14,259	10,112	19,430	46,132
By reference to Board or Court ..	221,769	326,881	3,366	30,420	107,051	18,761	82,112	78,431
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	2,105	629,075	46,450	1,032,801	510,277	69,441	53,330	197,599
By Filling Places of Work-people on Strike or Locked out ..	14,139	..	20	..	5,248	..	..	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	20,400	..	3,802	377	..	..	..	209
By other methods ..	56,509	72,913	71,127	252,811	143,519	53,244	314,184	241,965
Total ..	623,528	1,308,060	459,154	1,498,940	982,264	365,935	960,310	891,336

(a) See note to table on page 116.

In each of the years included above, direct negotiation between employers and employees settled the majority of the disputes. In the year 1913, 57 per cent. of the total number of dislocations were settled in this manner, and the percentages in subsequent years varied between 43 in 1925 and 78 in 1937. In 1944 the percentage was 41. In connexion with the comparatively large number of disputes classified as settled "By other methods", stoppages of work frequently occur, principally at the collieries, without any cause being brought officially under the notice of the employers or their representatives. Such stoppages usually last for one day, and work is resumed on the following morning without negotiation.

§ 8. Industrial Accidents.

I. Source of Information.—The following tables have been compiled from returns received from the Chief Inspectors of Factories, the Chief Inspectors of Machinery, and from Boiler, Lift, and Scaffolding Inspectors in the several States. In the Annual Reports issued by the State Departments, special sections are published relating to accidents in industrial undertakings. Reference to these Reports will afford more detailed information. The appreciative thanks of the Bureau are extended to the officials of the various State Departments, including the officials of the Mining Departments, who very kindly supplied the summarized returns shown hereunder.

2. Number of Accidents Reported.—The following table shows the number of accidents reported in each State in the years 1939 and 1941 to 1944 :—

Industrial Accidents, 1939 and 1941 to 1944.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A. (b)	Tas.	Aus- tralia.
No. of Fatal Accidents { 1939 .. 53 26 20 14 43 5 161	1941 .. 73 22 10 7 32 6 150	1942 .. 66 16 8 5 25 7 127	1943 .. (a) 71 18 9 3 19 8 128	1944 .. 54 19 6 4 17 11 111			
No. of Accidents Incapacitating for over 14 days { 1939 .. 9,794 976 684 178 1,662 106 13,400	1941 .. 14,303 1,971 743 245 1,656 92 19,210	1942 .. 17,867 1,835 1,126 341 1,517 100 22,786	1943 .. 20,781 2,143 921 285 1,268 90 25,488	1944 .. 20,710 2,019 879 224 1,097 104 25,033			

(a) See remarks below.

(b) Includes accidents reported by the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Fatal accidents in Australia reported in 1944 were slightly less than in the previous year and 31 per cent. less than in 1939. Non-fatal accidents, which were practically the same as in 1943, were however 87 per cent. more than in 1939.

The large number of accidents recorded in New South Wales was due to the provision of the Act that all accidents which prevent workers from returning to work within seven days must be reported. Figures for this State are, therefore, not exactly comparable with those for other States. Further, the definition of a non-fatal accident is not on uniform lines in all States.

3. Accidents in Industrial Groups.—The next table gives the number of accidents in industrial groups in Australia in 1944 compared with 1939.

Industrial Accidents: Number in Industrial Groups, Australia, 1939 and 1944.

Industrial Group.	Fatal.		Incapacitating for over 14 days. (b)	
	1939.	1944.	1939.	1944.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	5	7	664	718
II. Engineering, etc. (a) ..	15	11	4,343	11,464
III. Food, Drink, etc. ..	10	6	1,295	2,785
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc. ..	1	1	627	1,092
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	1	1	480	627
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	17	10	3,100	6,287
VII. Building and Scaffolding ..	7	4	23	19
VIII. Mining ..	93	51	2,552	1,588
IX. Lifts ..	3	..	6	18
X. Miscellaneous ..	9	20	310	435
Total ..	161	111	13,400	25,033

(a) Includes accidents reported by the Chief Inspector of Factories in New South Wales as having occurred in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works. Prior to 1938 these accidents were included in Group VIII. Mining.

(b) See remarks above.

In 1939 and 1944 the largest number of fatal accidents occurred in the mining industry, representing 58 and 46 per cent. respectively. The largest number of non-fatal accidents occurred in engineering, etc.—46 per cent. in 1944 compared with 32 per cent. in 1939.

In 1944 four fatal accidents occurred in connexion with building and scaffolding and twenty deaths resulted from other accidents. Thirty-six fatal and 22,973 non-fatal accidents were reported in the manufacturing industries, 11,464 of the total occurring in the engineering and metal-working group.

4. **Mining Accidents.**—(i) *Sources of Information.*—Information regarding mining accidents is obtained from the Departments of Mines in the respective States, except as regards accidents occurring in smelting and metallurgical works which are registered as factories and are under the jurisdiction of the Chief Inspectors of Factories.

(ii) *Classification.*—The following tables give particulars of mining accidents reported to the Mines Departments in each State in 1944.

Mining Accidents: Classification according to Causes, 1944.(a)
A.—Fatal Accidents.

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aus- tralia.
METALLIFEROUS MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	..	..	..	..	I	..	I
" " Falls of Ground ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" " Falling down shafts, etc. ..	2	..	I	I	I	..	5
Other Accidents	I	..	2	..	3	..	6
2. Above Ground(b)—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion .. ..	..	..	..	..	I	..	I
Other Accidents	3	..	..	..	..	4	7
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc. .. ..	..	..	I	..	I	..	2
COAL MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth ..	9	..	..	..	..	..	9
Other Accidents	12	..	..	..	I	..	13
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion .. ..	..	I	..	..	..	..	I
Other Accidents	5	I	..	..	..	..	6
Total	32	2	4	I	8	4	51

(a) The figures relating to mining accidents do not in all cases correspond with those published by the State Mines Departments, the discrepancies being partly due to the fact that accidents occurring in certain metallurgical works and quarries are not included in the figures issued by the Mines Departments, and partly to the lack of uniformity regarding the definition of a non-fatal accident. (b) Includes quarries, brick and clay pits, &c.

B.—Non-fatal Accidents Incapacitating for over 14 days.

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aus- tralia.
METALLIFEROUS MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	..	..	1	..	3	..	4
" " " Falls of Ground	27	..	2	..	26	1	56
" " " Falling down shafts, etc.	3	..	1	..	11	..	15
Other Accidents ..	77	..	62	1	370	21	531
2. Above Ground— (c)							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion ..	..	..	3	2	10	2	17
Other Accidents ..	33	3	22	38	116	31	243
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc. (b) ..	..	..	66	95	24	10	195
COAL MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.) ..	18	..	1	..	2	..	21
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth	14	8	40	..	29	1	92
Other Accidents ..	26	1	141	..	172	4	344
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion ..	1	..	..	..	4	..	5
Other Accidents ..	4	..	22	3	39	1	65
Total ..	203	12	361	139	802	71	1,588

(a) Complete reports not available. (b) Includes accidents reported by Chief Inspectors of Factories in States other than New South Wales as having occurred in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works. (c) Includes quarries, brick and clay pits, &c.

Thirty-four fatal mining accidents occurred below ground in Australia during the year 1944, as compared with 17 above ground. Fatal accidents in metalliferous mines in 1944 numbered 22, as against 29 in coalmines. The number of non-fatal mining accidents below ground was 1,063 and above ground 525.

CHAPTER V.—ASSOCIATIONS.

§ 1. Labour Organizations.

1. General.—In Labour Report No. 2 an outline was given of the method adopted to ascertain the number of members of labour organizations in Australia, and tabulated results up to the end of 1912 were included. From the beginning of 1913 quarterly returns were obtained from a considerable number of trade unions, both as to membership and unemployment, and these were supplemented at the end of each year by special inquiries as to the membership of those unions which, owing to the nature of the callings and industries covered, were unable to furnish quarterly unemployment returns. The following pages show the general situation in regard to the trades union movement in Australia at present, and its development since 1939. The affairs of single unions are not disclosed in the published results and this has assisted in securing complete information. The Bureau is greatly indebted to the secretaries of Trade Unions for their cordial co-operation in regard to the supply of information.

The figures published in this chapter cover the years 1941 to 1944 in comparison with 1939. Particulars for earlier years will be found in preceding issues of the Labour Report.

2. Trade Unions and Branches—Number and Membership, 1939 and 1941 to 1944—The following table gives particulars of the number of separate unions and branches with the number of members at the end of the years 1939 and 1941 to 1944 :—

Trade Unions : Branches and Membership.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N'thern T'tory.	A.C.T.	Total.	Aust.
NUMBER OF SEPARATE UNIONS.										
1939..	200	149	114	117	141	79	4	15	819	4380
1941..	193	146	115	117	141	76	4	15	807	4374
1942..	194	142	113	113	138	73	4	15	792	4377
1943..	192	142	113	113	138	73	4	15	790	4375
1944..	189	141	112	112	136	72	4	15	781	4370

NUMBER OF BRANCHES.										
1939..	598	398	312	178	204	69	..	1	1,760	62,109
1941..	599	386	309	174	208	71	..	1	1,748	62,181
1942..	597	382	308	174	208	71	..	1	1,741	62,156
1943..	592	382	308	175	207	71	..	1	1,736	62,151
1944..	591	382	307	173	208	71	..	1	1,733	62,144

NUMBER OF MEMBERS.										
1939..	358,391	216,803	180,653	67,282	67,833	22,062	761	1,685	915,470	1,015,470
1941..	425,522	270,343	192,015	95,289	65,015	24,292	1,406	1,798	1,075,680	1,075,680
1942..	483,039	302,782	190,578	111,388	64,535	26,893	1,406	1,796	1,182,417	1,182,417
1943..	498,169	311,791	194,225	107,311	63,880	26,130	1,406	1,951	1,204,863	1,204,863
1944..	508,832	314,952	192,085	104,892	67,617	26,939	1,406	2,055	1,218,778	1,218,778

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP.(c)

1939..	3.3	0.8	6.5	8.7	d 0.1	4.8	d 5.6	9.6	3.4	3.4
1941..	16.8	16.4	1.2	33.7	d 4.8	d 1.1	0.1	d 5.6	12.5	12.5
1942..	13.5	12.0	d 0.7	16.9	d 0.7	10.7	..	d 0.1	9.9	9.9
1943..	3.1	3.0	1.9	d 3.7	d 1.0	d 2.8	..	8.6	1.9	1.9
1944..	2.1	1.0	d 1.1	d 2.3	5.9	3.1	..	5.3	1.2	1.2

(a) Allowing for interstate duplication. The figures represent the number of distinct organizations and interstate groups of organizations. They do not represent the total number of organizations which are practically independent and self-governing (see following remarks). (b) Includes not only branches of separate State unions and sub-branches in each State of interstate unions, but also head State branches of interstate unions. (c) On preceding year. (d) Decrease.

The types of trade unions in Australia vary greatly, and range from the small independent association to the large interstate organization, which, in its turn, may be a branch of an international union. Broadly speaking, there are four distinct classes of labour organizations:—(i) the local independent; (ii) the State; (iii) the interstate; and (iv) the Australasian or international.

In the table just given, under the heading "Number of Separate Unions," each union represented in a State is counted once only, regardless of the number of branches in that State. In the total number of separate unions in each State (see last column but one), it is obvious that there will be duplication in the case of interstate and similar unions, since each such union is counted once in each State in which it is represented by a Branch. The figures in the last column, therefore, have been obtained by making due allowance for this duplication.

3. **Trade Unions—Industrial Groups, 1939 and 1941 to 1944.**—The following table gives the number and membership of trade unions in Australia in industrial groups at the end of the years 1941 to 1944 compared with 1939.

Trade Unions: Industrial Groups, Australia.

Industrial Groups.	1939.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
NUMBER OF UNIONS.					
Manufacturing—	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	17 (4)	17 (5)	17 (5)	17 (5)	17 (5)
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	64 (22)	63 (22)	62 (22)	61 (22)	61 (22)
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	72 (35)	73 (34)	68 (33)	67 (33)	66 (30)
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	26 (12)	25 (12)	25 (12)	25 (12)	24 (12)
V. Books, Printing, etc.	14 (8)	14 (8)	14 (8)	14 (8)	14 (8)
VI. Other Manufacturing	71 (37)	70 (35)	74 (37)	74 (37)	74 (37)
VII. Building	48 (28)	49 (27)	49 (28)	48 (27)	48 (27)
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	16 (13)	19 (13)	18 (13)	18 (13)	18 (13)
IX. Railway and Tramway Services	51 (29)	50 (29)	50 (29)	51 (29)	51 (29)
X. Other Land Transport	13 (6)	13 (6)	13 (6)	12 (5)	12 (5)
XI. Shipping, etc.	60 (21)	54 (19)	50 (19)	50 (19)	51 (19)
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	9 (5)	8 (4)	9 (5)	9 (5)	9 (5)
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	19 (18)	18 (17)	18 (17)	19 (17)	19 (17)
XIV. Miscellaneous—					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical	33 (20)	33 (20)	33 (21)	33 (21)	33 (21)
(ii) Public Service	147 (50)	142 (49)	142 (49)	142 (49)	142 (49)
(iii) Retail and Wholesale	15 (8)	15 (8)	15 (8)	15 (8)	15 (8)
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage and Labouring	20 (11)	20 (11)	20 (12)	20 (12)	20 (12)
(v) Other Miscellaneous	124 (53)	124 (55)	115 (53)	115 (53)	107 (51)
Total	819(380)	807(374)	792(377)	790(375)	781(370)

(a) Allowing for interstate duplication.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS.

Manufacturing—					
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	27,090	28,656	25,017	28,099	29,289
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	99,731	153,911	199,698	206,791	209,105
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	80,328	79,456	77,731	75,361	75,404
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	68,847	86,824	96,450	102,406	102,369
V. Books, Printing, etc.	22,303	24,049	23,574	23,810	25,127
VI. Other Manufacturing	52,074	86,443	100,069	95,116	84,782
VII. Building	45,651	58,812	69,843	71,645	64,780
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	48,812	47,048	44,462	41,950	40,282
IX. Railway and Tramway Services	105,938	111,922	120,672	121,044	124,763
X. Other Land Transport	19,488	21,290	20,403	21,688	21,922
XI. Shipping, etc.	28,766	29,740	32,013	32,342	35,936
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	40,276	43,242	45,742	37,730	36,168
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	13,177	20,381	20,073	22,167	28,382
XIV. Miscellaneous—					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical	39,013	48,451	56,176	65,577	76,645
(ii) Public Service	89,848	102,552	115,954	127,341	122,750
(iii) Retail and Wholesale	36,290	36,416	34,516	35,346	36,781
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage and Labouring	46,552	45,083	47,533	45,205	46,428
(v) Other Miscellaneous	50,392	51,404	52,491	51,239	57,867
Total	915,470	1,075,680	1,182,417	1,204,863	1,218,778

4. **Trade Unions: Numbers of Male and Female Members and percentage of Total Wage and Salary Earners.**—(i) *States, 1944.*—Prior to 1939, the numbers of male and female wage and salary earners (including unemployed) aged 20 years and over were estimated by increasing the numbers of such persons enumerated at the 1933 Census in ratio to the annual increases in males and females aged 20 to 64 years. Similarly, for wage and salary earners (including unemployed) under 20 years the numbers of such persons at the 1933 Census were increased in ratio to the annual increases in males and females 15 to 19 years. Further, allowance was made for (a) increase in the proportion of females who are wage and salary earners and (b) youths who were without occupation but were not recorded in the wage-earning group at the 1933 Census. While the foregoing method of estimation would produce fairly accurate results during normal times, the drastically altered conditions of employment over the period of the recent war necessitated the

adoption of more direct methods. For 1939 and subsequent years, therefore, data were obtained largely from the National Register of 1939, the Pay-roll Tax returns commencing from July, 1941, and the Civilian Register of 1943. Since the year mentioned, the estimated numbers of wage and salary earners include (a) wage earners enlisted in the Defence Forces and (b) persons who were "not gainfully occupied" before the outbreak of war, but have since entered wage-earning employment and (c) persons who have become wage or salary earners during the war but in normal times would be occupied in their own businesses.

The following table shows for each State the number of males, females and persons who are members of trade unions and the percentage of all adult wage and salary earners who are members of unions. The estimated number of wage and salary earners includes all persons 20 years of age and over in receipt of wages or salary, as well as those unemployed, and therefore embraces a large number of adults who are not eligible for membership of any trade union, such as certain persons employed in professional occupations, as well as others who, while eligible for membership so far as the nature of their trade or occupation is concerned, do not reside in a locality which is covered by any union devoted to their particular trade or occupation. Moreover the age at which persons are eligible for membership varies in different unions. The census results are classified in quinquennial age groups, and age 20 years is taken as approximating to the age of admission to membership. A line has also been added showing the estimated numbers of "junior" workers under 20 years of age.

Trade Unions: Number of Male and Female Members, and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners, States, 1944.

Particulars.	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aus- tralia. (b)
MALES.							
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)(c) ..	687,200	467,200	226,700	152,700	114,800	52,000	1,707,400
No. of Members of Unions ..	399,187	232,846	152,046	83,881	54,187	21,281	944,777
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	58.1	49.8	67.1	54.9	47.2	40.9	55.3
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20) ..	107,600	72,300	40,500	24,400	18,100	9,700	272,600
FEMALES.							
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)(c) ..	215,200	170,600	65,700	43,200	31,800	14,300	541,000
No. of Members of Unions ..	111,700	82,106	40,039	21,011	13,430	5,658	274,001
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	51.9	48.1	60.9	48.6	42.2	39.6	50.6
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20) ..	84,200	62,400	33,800	18,800	16,100	6,700	222,000
PERSONS.							
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)(c) ..	902,400	637,800	292,400	195,900	146,600	66,300	2,248,400
No. of Members of Unions ..	510,887	314,952	192,085	104,892	67,617	26,939	1,218,778
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	56.6	49.4	65.7	53.5	46.1	40.6	54.2
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20) ..	191,800	134,700	74,300	43,200	34,200	16,400	494,600

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(c) Includes

wage earners enlisted in defence forces or unemployed.

(ii) *Australia*.—Similar particulars for Australia for the years 1939 and 1941 to 1944, are given in the following table.

Trade Unions: Number of Male and Female Members and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners, Australia. (a)

Particulars.	1939.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
MALES.					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) ^a	1,507,500	1,671,500	1,727,600	1,749,700	1,707,400
Number of Members of Unions	778,336	886,648	943,555	935,997	944,777
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	51.6	53.0	54.6	53.5	55.3
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	275,600	290,600	296,000	296,000	272,600
FEMALES.					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) ^a	417,600	484,000	520,000	546,000	541,000
Number of Members of Unions	137,134	189,032	238,862	268,866	274,001
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	32.8	39.1	45.9	49.7	50.6
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	187,200	230,400	258,300	257,300	222,000
PERSONS.					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) ^a	1,925,100	2,155,500	2,247,600	2,295,700	2,248,400
Number of Members of Unions	915,470	1,075,680	1,182,417	1,204,863	1,218,778
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	47.6	49.9	52.6	52.5	54.2
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	462,800	521,000	554,300	553,300	494,600

(a) Includes wage earners enlisted in defence forces or unemployed.

5. Trade Unions—Classification according to Number of Members, 1939 and 1941 to 1944.—The following table shows the number and membership of all trade unions in Australia for the years 1939 and 1941 to 1944 inclusive, classified according to size. In this table interstate unions are counted once only:—

Trade Unions: Classification according to Number of Members, Australia.

Classifi- cation.	10,000 and over.	5,000 and under 10,000.	2,000 and under 5,000.	1,000 and under 2,000.	500 and under 1,000.	300 and under 500.	200 and under 300.	100 and under 200.	50 and under 100.	Under 50.	Total.
NUMBER OF UNIONS.											
1939 ..	27	14	41	43	52	28	30	52	41	52	380
1941 ..	32	14	44	42	46	32	28	48	37	51	374
1942 ..	33	13	48	40	46	34	29	48	30	50	377
1943 ..	33	19	44	33	45	27	26	53	41	54	375
1944 ..	33	19	40	37	44	22	33	50	42	50	370
MEMBERSHIP.											
1939 ..	568,624	87,077	134,204	50,283	36,776	10,578	7,483	7,225	2,655	1,565	915,470
1941 ..	710,705	109,030	135,077	54,190	35,622	12,183	7,827	6,929	2,513	1,604	1,075,680
1942 ..	855,628	111,759	147,204	43,039	34,471	12,429	6,948	6,575	2,708	1,656	1,182,417
1943 ..	851,882	119,403	128,852	44,356	31,882	10,204	6,499	7,384	2,851	1,550	1,204,863
1944 ..	857,114	120,383	128,926	51,844	32,344	8,514	8,291	7,011	2,957	1,394	1,218,778
PERCENTAGE ON TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.											
1939 ..	62.1	9.5	14.7	6.5	4.0	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.2	100.0
1941 ..	66.1	10.1	12.6	5.0	3.3	1.1	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.2	100.0
1942 ..	69.0	9.5	12.4	3.6	2.9	1.1	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.1	100.0
1943 ..	70.7	9.9	10.7	3.7	2.7	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.1	100.0
1944 ..	70.3	9.9	10.6	4.2	2.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.2	0.1	100.0

In the last part of the preceding table the percentage which the membership in each group bears to the total membership of all groups is given. The tendency towards closer organization is evidenced by the fact that although membership of trade unions has increased since 1912 by 181 per cent., the number of unions having less than 2,000 members has considerably decreased, namely, from 360 to 278. In 1944, 9.2 per cent. of trade union members belonged to unions having less than 2,000 members as compared with 13.7 per cent. in 1939 and 28.1 per cent. in 1912.

6. Interstate or Federated Trade Unions.—The following table gives particulars regarding number and membership of interstate or federated trade unions having branches in two or more States. The figures include interstate unions registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, as well as federated unions which are not so registered :—

Interstate or Federated Trade Unions : Number and Membership.

PARTICULARS.		UNIONS OPERATING IN—					TOTAL.
		2 States.	3 States.	4 States.	5 States.	6 States.(a)	
Number of Unions	{ 1939 ..	19	11	20	24	42	116
	{ 1941 ..	17	11	18	27	42	115
	{ 1942 ..	18	12	17	26	43	116
	{ 1943 ..	18	12	17	24	46	117
	{ 1944 ..	16	16	15	24	49	120
Number of Members	{ 1939 ..	30,888	33,319	120,664	209,369	361,884	756,124
	{ 1941 ..	29,873	34,408	170,994	263,845	408,401	907,521
	{ 1942 ..	30,871	37,944	169,561	299,388	495,147	1,032,911
	{ 1943 ..	31,889	37,366	158,248	299,685	534,625	1,061,813
	{ 1944 ..	29,415	46,870	122,975	302,897	561,562	1,063,719

(a) Certain unions in this group have, in addition to branches in each of the six States, branches in the Northern Territory and in the Australian Capital Territory.

The number of organizations operating in two or more States has increased from 72 in 1912 to 120 in 1944, and the percentage of the membership of such organizations on the total membership of all organizations has risen from 65 per cent. to 87 per cent. during the same period.

7. Central Labour Organizations.—In each of the capital cities, as well as in a number of other industrial centres, delegate organizations, consisting of representatives from a group of trade unions, have been established. Their revenue is raised by means of a *per capita* tax on the members of each affiliated union. In the majority of the towns where such central organizations exist, most of the local unions are affiliated with the central organization, which is usually known as the Labour or Trades Hall Council, or the Labour Federation. In Western Australia a unified system of organization extends over the industrial centres throughout the State, and there is a provincial branch of the Australian Labour Party, having a central council and executive, and metropolitan and branch district councils to which the local bodies are affiliated. The central council, on which all district councils are represented, meets periodically. In the other States, however, the organization is not so close, and though provision usually exists in the rules of the central council in the capital city of each State for the organization of district councils, or for the representation on the central council of the local councils in the smaller industrial centres of the State, the councils in each State are, as a matter of fact, independent bodies. The following table gives the number of metropolitan and district or local labour councils, together with the number of unions and branches of unions affiliated therewith in each State at the end of the years 1939 and 1941 to 1944.

Central Labour Organizations : Number, and Branch Unions Affiliated.

Particulars.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N. Ter.	A.C.T.	Aus- trali.
No. of Councils	{ 1939 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	1	27
	{ 1941 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	1	27
	{ 1942 ..	7	9	10	2	9	3	..	1	41
	{ 1943 ..	7	9	11	2	9	3	..	1	42
	{ 1944 ..	7	9	11	2	9	3	..	1	42
No. of Unions and Branch Unions Affiliated	{ 1939 ..	103	179	79	50	210	59	..	9	689
	{ 1941 ..	105	177	81	50	208	57	..	9	687
	{ 1942 ..	207	248	92	57	256	88	..	9	957
	{ 1943 ..	210	256	101	61	274	71	..	9	982
	{ 1944 ..	224	263	107	64	277	73	..	15	1,023

The figures regarding number of unions do not necessarily represent separate unions, since the branches of a large union may be affiliated with the local trades councils in the several towns in which they are represented.

Between the trade union and the central organization of unions may be classed certain State or district councils organized on trade lines and composed of delegates from separate unions, the interests of the members of which are closely connected by reason of the occupations of their members such, for example, as delegate councils of bakers, bread carters and mill employees, or of unions connected directly or indirectly with the metal trades, or with the building trades.

A Central Labour Organization, called the Australasian Council of Trade Unions, came into being during 1927. The Council was created to function on behalf of the Trade Unions of Australia, and was founded at an All-Australian Trade Union Congress, held in Melbourne in May, 1927. The Australasian Council is based on the Metropolitan Trades and Labour Councils in each State, such bodies having the right to appoint two representatives to act on the Executive of the Council. In addition to the representatives from the Metropolitan Councils, the Executive consists of four officers, viz., the President, two Vice-Presidents, and a Secretary, who are elected by and from the All-Australian Trade Union Congress.

The objective of the Council is the socialization of industry, i.e., production, distribution and exchange. The methods to be adopted are:— (a) The closer organization of the workers by the transformation of the Australian Trade Union Movement from the Craft to an Industrial basis by the establishment of one Union in each industry; (b) the consolidation of the Australasian Labour Movement with the object of unified control, administration, and action; (c) the centralized control of industrial disputes; and (d) educational propaganda among Unions.

The A.C.T.U. is the first interstate body in Australia with authority to deal with industrial matters of an interstate character affecting the Trade Union movement generally. It is also the body responsible for submitting the names of suitable persons from which the Commonwealth Government selects the Australian Workers' delegate to the Annual International Labour Conference.

8. Organizations Registered under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act.—Under Part V. of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act any employer or association of employers in any industry who has employed not less than 100 employees during six months preceding

application for registration, and any association of not less than 100 employees in any industry may be registered.* Registered unions include both interstate associations and associations operating within one State only.

At the end of 1944 the number of employers' organizations registered under the provisions of the Act was 42. The number of unions registered was 161, with a membership of approximately 1,086,000, representing 89 per cent. of the total membership of all trade unions in Australia.

§ 2. International Labour Conferences.

In Chapter XVII. of *Labour Report* No. 14, information was given with regard to the clauses in the Peace Treaty referring to labour conditions. Provision was made in the Treaty for the holding of International Labour Conferences, and the institution of the International Labour Office. The Report referred to also contains information regarding the activities of the Labour Office, together with a brief reference to the five Annual Labour Conferences which had then been held. Particulars of the proceedings at subsequent Conferences were given in later reports. The 26th session of the International Labour Conference was held at Philadelphia, United States of America, from 20th April to 13th May, 1944, and the Agenda and decisions appear in *Labour Report* No. 33, 1943. The Special Conference of 1941 was not included in the system of numeration applicable to these Conferences.

The 27th session of the International Labour Conference opened at Paris on 15th October, 1945, and the agenda was as follows:—

1. The Director's Report.
2. The maintenance of high levels of employment during the period of industrial rehabilitation and reconversion.
3. The protection of children and young workers.
4. Matters arising out of the work of the Constitutional Committee.

Part 1.—The relationship of the International Labour Organization to other international bodies.

Part 2.—Revision of the form and arrangement of the standing orders of the Conference.

5. Minimum standards of social policy in dependent territories.
6. Report on the application of conventions.

The Australian delegation comprised the following:—Government delegates—Senator the Hon. J. M. Fraser, Minister for Health and Minister for Social Services (Leader), and L. C. Haylen, Esq., M.P.; Employers' delegate—O. D. A. Oberg, Esq., President, Australian Council of Employers' Federations; Workers' delegate—A. E. Monk, Esq., Secretary, Australasian Council of Trade Unions.

During the course of the Conference the first full elections of the Governing Body since 1938, were held and Australia was elected for a period of three years to one of the eight elected seats.

Recommendations were made in respect of all items on the agenda and include recommendations concerning—

Medical Examination for Fitness of Young Workers.

Restriction of Night Work of Young Persons.

Minimum Standards of Social Policy in Dependent Territories.

Full Employment.

It is proposed to reproduce in a Government Paper the full texts of the Recommendations and Resolutions of the Conference together with reports of Australian delegates.

* Under the Arbitration (Public Service) Act an association of less than 100 employees may be registered as an organization, provided that its members comprise at least three-fifths of all persons engaged in that industry in the Service.

In January, 1945, the Governing Body decided to take steps to set up a number of Industrial Committees within the framework of the International Labour Organization with a view to providing specialized machinery to consider the problems of certain of the major world industries. The following are the industries for which it was decided to set up committees in the first place:—Inland Transport, Metal Trades, Coal Mining, Textiles, Iron and Steel Production, Petroleum Production and Refining; and Building, Civil Engineering and Public Works.

Australia was invited to send representatives to meetings of all but the Petrol Production and Refining Committee and delegations were sent to meetings of the Coal-mining Committee and the Inland Transport Committee in London in December, 1945.

Two committees will meet in Cleveland, United States of America, in 1946, the Iron and Steel Products from 23rd to 29th April, and the Metal Trades from 2nd to 11th May. Dates and places of meeting of the other committees have not yet been received.

A Maritime Preparatory Technical Conference of the International Labour Organization was held in Copenhagen in November, 1945, and a delegation of three was sent from Australia and consisted of representatives of the Government, shipowners and seafarers. As the Conference was preparatory to the General Maritime session of the International Labour Organization, to be held in Seattle in June, 1946, the work done will be subject to further review before nations are asked to ratify or adopt the instruments. Recommendations were made concerning—Wages, Hours and Manning, Annual Holidays and Pay for Seamen, Accommodation on Board Ship, Food and Catering on Board Ship, Seafarers' Pensions, Continuous Employment, and Minimum Age of Entry to Sea Service.

§ 3. World Federation of Trade Unions.

The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) finally came into being with the adoption of its Constitution on 3rd October, 1945, by the World Trade Union Conference held in Paris.

The main objects of the Federation are as follows:—

- (a) To organize and unite within its ranks the trade unions of the world, irrespective of considerations of race, nationality, religion or political opinion;
- (b) To assist wherever necessary the workers in countries socially or industrially less developed in setting up their trade unions;
- (c) To carry on the struggle for the extermination of all Fascist forms of government and manifestation of Fascism under whatever form it operates and by whatever name it may be known; and
- (d) To combat war and the causes of war and work for a stable and enduring peace.

The trade unions of certain countries (e.g., Germany and Japan) are not yet admitted into the Federation, while certain large organizations in other countries are for certain reasons holding aloof from membership.

With a membership of approximately 70,000,000, the Federation is the largest trade union organization ever known.

APPENDIX

SECTION I.

Sydney : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1944.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1944.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84
Flour, ordinary ..	"	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
" self-raising ..	"	8.15	8.15	8.15	8.15	8.15	8.15	8.15	8.20	8.20	8.20	8.20	8.20	8.17
Tea ..	lb.	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00
Sugar ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) (a) ..	"	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Sago (a) ..	"	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.60	13.60	13.60	13.60	13.60	13.60	13.60	13.60	13.57
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.95	6.95	6.95	7.00	7.00	6.95	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.98
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.60	3.60	3.65	3.68	3.68	3.68	3.68	3.68	3.68	3.68	3.68	3.63	3.66
Raisins, seeded (a) ..	"	12.33	12.43	12.75	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.63	12.63	12.63	12.50	12.53
Currants ..	"	10.75	10.75	10.75	10.81	10.89	10.89	10.85	10.70	10.75	10.75	10.75	10.75	10.78
Apricots, dried (a) ..	"	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50
Peaches, canned (a) ..	30 oz.	13.13	13.13	13.13	13.13	13.13	13.13	13.13	13.56	13.56	13.56	13.56	13.56	13.31
Pears, canned (a) ..	"	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	14.38	14.36	14.43	14.44	14.43	14.02
Salmon, in tins (a) ..	lb.	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	9.00	8.70	9.00	8.93	8.93	8.78	8.66	8.66	8.66	8.66	8.66	8.66	8.78
Onions, brown (a) ..	lb.	3.14	3.14	3.40	3.50	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.92	3.92	3.92	3.54
Soap ..	"	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86
Kerosene ..	quart	6.28	6.28	6.28	6.28	6.28	6.28	6.28	6.22	6.22	6.22	6.22	6.22	6.26
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	20.00	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05
Cheese, mild ..	"	17.14	17.14	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.08
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	27.94	28.22	28.22	28.25	28.25	28.22	28.22	28.20	22.20	22.30	22.30	23.00	26.28
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	23.07	23.21	23.57	22.71	22.36	22.00	22.07	22.06	22.06	22.06	22.06	22.06	22.44
Milk, condensed ..	1 tin	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.75	9.70
" fresh ..	1 quart	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	12.35	12.35	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.35	12.40	12.40	12.20	12.10	12.29
" rib ..	"	8.50	8.50	8.40	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.75	8.85	8.85	8.85	8.85	8.75	8.66
" steak, rump ..	"	22.00	20.70	20.70	20.70	20.70	20.70	21.05	20.70	21.00	21.00	20.20	20.10	20.80
" chuck ..	"	9.15	9.15	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.20	9.25	9.20	9.20	9.15	9.15	9.15
" sausages ..	"	8.00	7.95	7.90	7.90	8.00	8.20	8.20	8.30	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.17
Beef (corned) silver side ..	"	9.80	9.85	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.10	10.10	10.00	10.00	10.20	10.25	10.03
" " " brisket ..	"	7.15	7.05	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.35	7.55	7.60	7.60	7.60	7.70	7.70	7.43
Mutton, leg ..	"	7.78	7.78	7.90	7.90	7.90	9.20	9.00	9.00	8.95	8.70	8.55	8.25	8.41
" forequarter ..	"	4.67	4.67	4.70	4.70	4.70	5.45	5.35	5.25	5.00	4.85	4.90	4.90	4.93
" loin ..	"	9.11	9.11	9.40	9.40	9.40	10.90	10.85	10.85	10.75	10.65	10.25	10.15	10.07
" chops, loin leg ..	"	10.17	10.22	10.40	10.40	10.40	11.75	11.80	11.70	11.45	11.20	10.45	10.35	10.86
" " " leg ..	"	9.50	9.44	9.65	9.70	9.70	10.70	10.80	10.85	10.80	10.55	10.10	9.95	10.15
Pork, leg (a) ..	"	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60
" loin (a) ..	"	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55
" chops (a) ..	"	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20

(a) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

SECTION I.—continued.

Melbourne : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1944.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1944.
Groceries, &c.—	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55
Flour, ordinary ..	"	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.23
" self-raising ..	"	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.38	7.45	7.45	7.40
Tea ..	lb.	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00
Sugar ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) (a) ..	"	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60
Sago (a) ..	"	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.15	11.15	11.15	11.15	11.15	11.15	11.15	11.15	11.15	11.21
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.40	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.31
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.72	3.72	3.72	3.72	3.69	3.69	3.69	3.69	3.69	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.72
Raisins, seeded ..	"	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.78	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	12.92
Currants ..	"	10.43	10.40	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.63	10.56	10.56	10.50
Apricots, dried (a) ..	"	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00
Pears, canned (a) ..	"	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
Salmon, in tins (a) ..	lb.	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
Soap ..	"	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11
Kerosene ..	quart	6.54	6.54	6.54	6.54	6.54	6.54	6.54	6.54	6.54	6.54	6.54	6.54	6.54
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50
Cheese, mild ..	"	16.22	16.22	16.28	16.22	16.22	16.22	16.22	16.22	16.22	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.24
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	28.10	28.10	28.10	28.10	28.10	28.10	28.10	28.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	26.14
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	24.56	24.56	24.56	24.56	24.56	24.56	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.94	22.94	23.17	23.87
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.95	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.05	10.05	10.05	10.05	10.10	10.10	10.02
" fresh ..	quart	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	14.00	13.50	13.50	13.60	13.60	13.70	14.10	14.10	14.10	14.10	13.40	13.40	13.76
" rib ..	"	10.65	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.55	11.00	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.20	11.30	10.97
" steak, rump ..	"	20.70	20.80	20.80	20.60	20.60	21.10	21.30	21.40	21.40	21.40	21.00	21.00	21.01
" chuck ..	"	9.75	9.65	9.70	9.60	9.60	9.90	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.30	10.30	10.02
" sausages ..	"	7.60	7.60	7.60	7.65	7.65	7.65	7.85	7.85	7.85	7.85	7.85	7.85	7.74
Beef (corned) silver-side ..	"	12.15	12.15	12.15	12.15	12.15	12.40	13.10	13.10	13.10	13.10	12.60	12.70	12.57
" brisket ..	"	8.45	8.35	8.35	8.25	8.25	8.85	9.45	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.05	9.15	8.86
Mutton, leg ..	"	10.45	10.40	10.40	10.60	10.85	11.70	11.80	11.80	11.20	11.15	11.10	11.10	11.05
" forequarter ..	"	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.60	5.95	6.75	6.95	6.80	6.60	6.40	5.35	5.50	5.97
" loin ..	"	8.95	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.25	10.30	10.25	10.15	9.70	9.70	9.05	9.05	9.49
" chops, loin ..	"	9.60	9.90	9.90	9.95	10.05	11.05	11.25	11.15	10.70	10.70	10.20	10.15	10.38
" leg ..	"	11.00	10.95	11.00	11.15	11.20	11.85	11.90	11.90	11.35	11.30	10.95	10.95	11.29
Pork, leg (a) ..	"	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95
" loin (a) ..	"	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80
" chops (a) ..	"	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65

(a) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

SECTION I.—continued.

Brisbane : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1944.

Article	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1944.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
Flour, ordinary ..	"	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09
" self-raising ..	"	8.64	8.64	8.64	8.64	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.61
Tea ..	lb.	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05
Sugar ..	"	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98
Rice (Australian) (a)	"	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57
Sago (a) ..	"	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	12.47	12.47	12.31	12.49	12.33	12.55	12.55	12.61	12.45	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.47
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.82	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.78	3.83	3.97	3.93	3.93	4.07	4.06	4.06	4.06	4.06	4.06	4.06	3.99
Raisins, seeded ..	"	12.64	12.55	12.55	12.55	12.55	12.39	12.50	12.55	12.55	12.55	12.94	13.03	12.61
Ourrants ..	"	11.30	11.30	11.25	11.25	11.22	11.20	11.10	11.15	11.15	11.15	11.25	11.35	11.23
Apricots, dried (a) ..	"	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25
Peaches, canned (a)	30 oz.	13.89	13.89	13.89	13.89	13.89	13.89	13.89	13.89	13.89	15.25	15.30	15.05	14.22
Pears, canned (a) ..	"	14.43	14.43	14.43	14.43	14.43	14.43	14.43	14.43	14.43	15.50	15.67	15.29	14.69
Salmon, in tins (a) ..	lb.	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	8.90	8.35	8.37	8.37	8.37	8.37	8.37	8.37	8.37	8.36	8.36	8.37	8.41
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.86	2.93	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.98
Soap ..	"	7.03	7.06	7.06	7.03	7.03	7.03	7.03	7.03	7.03	7.03	7.03	6.96	7.03
Kerosene ..	quart	5.69	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.72	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.91	19.91	19.91	19.91	19.91	19.91	19.91	19.91	19.91	19.91	19.91	19.82	19.90
Cheese, mild ..	"	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.09	15.01
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	27.73	27.73	27.73	27.82	27.82	27.73	27.90	27.64	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	25.93
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	18.75	23.06	23.00	22.17	21.91	21.86	21.86	21.86	21.86	22.00	22.00	22.00	21.86
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.68	9.73	9.82	9.77	9.77	9.77	9.77	9.77	9.77	9.77	9.77	9.82	9.77
" fresh ..	quart	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	12.15	12.15	12.15	12.15	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90	12.05	12.00	12.00	12.01
" rib ..	"	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.80	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.22	6.22	5.28	5.28	5.28	6.22
" steak, rump ..	"	17.00	16.95	16.95	16.95	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	17.00	17.00	17.00	16.95
" chuck ..	"	7.85	7.85	7.85	7.85	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.95	7.95	7.56	7.05	7.05	7.72
" sausages ..	"	7.64	7.69	7.69	7.69	7.75	7.75	7.75	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.83
Beef (corned) silver														
side ..	"	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	11.00	10.50	10.50	10.77
brisket ..	"	7.80	8.00	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.60	7.55	7.55	7.83
Mutton, leg ..	"	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.45	8.45	8.45	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.45
" forequarter ..	"	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.05	5.05	5.45	5.45	5.20	5.10
" loin ..	"	7.45	7.45	7.60	7.60	7.50	7.45	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.67	7.67	7.72	7.53
" chops, loin ..	"	8.45	8.45	8.45	8.45	8.40	8.45	8.45	8.45	8.40	9.00	9.00	9.00	8.58
" chops, leg ..	"	7.89	7.89	7.89	7.89	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.67	7.50	8.22	7.76
Pork, leg (a) ..	"	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07
" loin (a) ..	"	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86
" chops (a) ..	"	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00

(a) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

Adelaide : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1944.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1944.
<i>Groceries, &c.—</i>														
Bread ..	2 lb.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Flour, ordinary ..	"	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75
" self-raising ..	"	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55
Tea ..	lb.	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15
Sugar ..	"	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10
Rice (Australian) (a) ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Sago (a) ..	"	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	6.95	6.95	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90
Raisins, seeded ..	"	3.53	3.53	3.58	3.58	3.58	3.63	3.63	3.65	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.64
Currants ..	"	11.65	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.60
Apricots, dried (a) ..	"	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90
Peaches, canned (a) ..	30 oz.	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38
Pears, canned (a) ..	"	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42
Salmon, in tins (a) ..	lb.	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80
Onions, brown ..	lb.	8.40	8.45	8.40	8.41	8.41	8.46	8.44	8.44	8.44	8.44	8.44	8.44	8.43
Soap ..	lb.	2.60	2.48	2.38	2.60	2.70	2.68	2.78	2.88	2.88	2.88	2.88	3.00	2.73
Kerosene ..	quart	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36
" ..	"	5.64	5.64	5.64	5.64	5.66	5.66	5.66	5.66	5.66	5.66	5.66	5.66	5.65
<i>Dairy Produce—</i>														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Cheese, mild ..	"	14.72	14.72	14.83	14.83	14.83	14.83	14.83	14.83	14.83	14.83	14.83	14.83	14.81
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	28.25	28.25	28.25	28.25	28.25	28.25	28.25	28.25	22.30	22.30	22.35	26.35	26.35
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	19.70	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.80	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.88
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30
" fresh ..	quart	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50
<i>Meat—</i>														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	12.05	11.95	11.95	11.95	11.85	11.75	12.05	12.05	12.00	12.10	12.10	12.10	11.99
" rib ..	"	9.78	9.89	9.89	9.89	9.89	9.83	9.94	10.00	9.89	10.06	10.06	10.06	9.93
" steak, rump ..	"	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.60	16.60	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.85	16.85	16.80	16.68
" chuck ..	"	10.40	10.20	10.05	10.05	10.05	10.05	10.35	10.40	10.40	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.28
" sausages ..	"	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.03
Beef (corned) silver side ..	"	11.90	11.80	11.70	11.70	11.70	11.70	11.70	11.70	11.70	11.70	11.70	11.70	11.73
" brisket ..	"	8.60	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.65	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.66
Mutton, leg ..	"	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.20	10.60	10.60	10.55	10.50	10.55	9.80	9.75	10.21
" forequarter ..	"	4.60	4.75	4.65	4.65	5.00	5.40	5.55	5.25	5.00	4.65	4.70	4.70	4.91
" loin ..	"	7.90	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.65	9.30	9.25	8.95	8.40	8.20	8.25	8.30	8.50
" chops, loin leg ..	"	8.80	8.80	8.80	8.80	9.65	10.10	10.20	9.95	9.00	8.65	8.70	8.85	9.18
Pork, leg (a) ..	"	10.30	10.30	10.30	10.30	10.50	10.75	10.60	10.50	10.40	10.40	10.35	10.35	10.42
" loin (a) ..	"	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
" chops (a) ..	"	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30
" ..	"	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90

(a) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

SECTION I.—continued.

Perth : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1944.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1944.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Flour, ordinary ..	"	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
" self-raising ..	"	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95
Tea ..	lb.	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00
Sugar ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) (a) ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Sago (a) ..	"	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25
Raisins, seeded ..	"	12.70	12.70	12.70	12.75	12.75	12.75	12.75	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.76
Currants ..	"	10.28	10.28	10.28	10.33	10.33	10.33	10.33	10.33	10.33	10.33	10.33	10.33	10.32
Apricots, dried (a) ..	"	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Peaches, canned (a) ..	30 oz.	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50
Pears, canned (a) ..	"	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50
Salmon, in tins (a) ..	lb.	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	8.37	8.43	8.42	8.40	8.47	8.47	8.47	8.46	8.42	8.42	8.42	8.42	8.43
Onions, brown (a) ..	lb.	2.60	2.75	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.70	3.70	3.38	3.14	2.95	3.04
Soap ..	"	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33
Kerosene ..	quart	6.60	6.60	6.60	6.61	6.61	6.61	6.61	6.61	6.61	6.61	6.61	6.61	6.61
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Cheese, mild ..	"	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.92
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	27.90	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	27.70	22.00	21.70	22.00	23.00	26.03
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	20.35	20.35	20.35	20.35	20.40	20.40	20.40	20.40	20.40	20.40	20.50	20.50	20.40
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.90	9.90	9.80	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85
" fresh ..	quart	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	12.50	12.55	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.60	12.60	12.60	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	12.70
" rib ..	"	10.90	10.90	10.80	10.80	10.75	10.75	10.75	10.75	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.87
" steak, rump ..	"	18.65	18.65	18.15	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.12
" chuck ..	"	11.00	11.00	10.90	10.90	10.85	10.85	10.85	10.85	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.94
" sausages ..	"	8.70	8.70	8.80	8.80	8.80	8.90	8.90	8.90	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	8.88
Beef (corned) silver-side ..	"	11.10	11.10	10.80	10.80	10.75	10.75	10.75	10.75	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.90
" brisket ..	"	8.95	8.95	8.80	8.80	8.75	8.80	8.80	8.80	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	8.89
Mutton, leg ..	"	9.70	9.70	9.60	9.60	10.10	11.15	11.25	11.25	11.00	10.10	9.00	9.00	10.12
" forequarter ..	"	6.00	6.00	6.15	6.20	6.50	7.20	7.15	7.15	6.95	6.85	7.00	7.00	6.68
" loin ..	"	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.80	10.30	10.95	11.00	11.00	10.80	10.70	9.90	9.90	10.29
" chops, loin ..	"	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.30	10.75	11.90	11.95	11.95	11.00	10.90	10.00	10.00	10.83
" leg ..	"	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.40	10.75	11.95	12.00	12.00	11.00	10.90	10.00	10.00	10.90
Pork, leg (a) ..	"	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30
" loin (a) ..	"	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30
" chops (a) ..	"	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30

(a) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

SECTION I.—continued.

Hobart : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1944.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1944.
Groceries, &c.—		<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
Flour, ordinary ..	"	4.00	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.50	4.50	4.60	4.23
" self-raising ..	"	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.35	7.35	7.20	7.20	7.30	7.35	7.35	7.40	7.36
Tea ..	lb.	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.05	27.10	27.10	27.05	27.09
Sugar ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) (a) ..	"	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86
Sago (a) ..	"	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.65	9.65	9.65	9.65	9.70	9.85	10.00	10.00	9.71
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	8.25	8.20	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.16
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.05	3.95	3.95	3.95	3.95	3.78	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.91
Raisins, seeded ..	"	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.35	12.50	12.61	12.61	12.67	12.85	12.85	12.90	12.53
Currants ..	"	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	11.00	10.95	11.05	11.05	10.87
Apricots, dried (a) ..	"	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Peaches, canned (a) ..	30 oz.	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.30	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.37
Pears, canned (a) ..	"	13.38	13.38	13.67	13.57	13.57	13.57	13.57	13.57	13.57	13.43	13.43	13.44	13.51
Salmon, in tins (a) ..	lb.	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40
Onions, brown (a) ..	lb.	3.44	3.33	3.35	3.35	3.25	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.26
Soap ..	"	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33
Kerosene ..	quart	7.77	7.45	7.29	7.29	7.29	7.29	7.29	7.29	7.11	7.18	7.27	7.27	7.32
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Cheese, mild ..	"	17.60	17.60	17.60	17.60	17.60	17.60	17.60	17.60	16.10	16.00	16.00	16.11	17.08
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	22.00	22.00	22.14	23.00	26.10
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Milk, condensed ..	tin	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.40	10.19
" fresh ..	quart	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	12.15	11.95	11.95	11.95	11.95	12.30	12.30	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	12.00	12.38
" rib ..	"	10.75	10.65	10.45	10.15	10.15	10.50	10.50	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.10	10.60
" steak, rump ..	"	17.20	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.90	17.25	17.25	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	17.00	17.33
" chuck ..	"	9.95	9.95	9.95	9.95	9.95	10.30	10.30	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	9.90	10.32
" sausages ..	"	7.80	7.80	7.80	7.90	7.78	7.67	7.67	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78
Beef (corned) silver-side ..	"	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	12.00	12.00	12.90	13.00	13.00	13.00	12.00	12.18
" brisket ..	"	9.85	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75	10.10	10.10	10.35	10.40	10.40	10.40	9.65	10.02
Mutton, leg ..	"	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.35	10.35	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.00	10.39
" forequarter ..	"	6.10	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.90	6.25	6.25	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.00	6.33
" loin ..	"	9.85	9.65	9.65	9.65	9.65	10.00	10.00	10.50	10.40	10.40	10.40	9.50	9.97
" chops, loin ..	"	10.80	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.10	10.45	10.45	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.00	10.61
" leg ..	"	10.90	10.70	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.75	10.75	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90	10.80	11.08
Pork, leg ..	"	16.44	14.11	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.21
" loin ..	"	16.56	14.11	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.22
" chops ..	"	17.22	14.22	14.11	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.30

(a) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

Section II.

Weekly House Rents (a) in Metropolitan and Provincial Towns.

TOWN.	WRIGHTED AVERAGE WEEKLY RENTS FOR 4 AND 5 ROOMS COMBINED.					
	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
NEW SOUTH WALES—						
Sydney	23 3	23 5	23 5	23 5	23 5	23 5
Newcastle	20 0	20 3	20 3	20 3	20 3	20 4
Broken Hill	16 0	16 4	16 3	15 11	15 9	15 10
Goulburn	18 3	18 3	18 6	18 6	18 6	18 6
Bathurst	17 8	17 9	17 9	17 8	17 8	17 8
Five Towns(b)	22 9	22 11	23 0	23 0	22 11	22 11
VICTORIA—						
Melbourne	21 5	21 9	21 11	21 11	21 11	21 10
Ballarat	15 0	14 9	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 11
Bendigo	15 4	15 5	15 6	15 7	15 7	15 7
Geelong	19 8	19 10	20 0	20 0	20 0	19 11
Warrnambool	19 4	19 7	19 8	19 8	19 7	19 7
Five Towns(b)	21 0	21 3	21 5	21 5	21 5	21 5
QUEENSLAND—						
Brisbane	19 2	19 3	19 4	19 4	19 4	19 5
Toowoomba	17 9	17 10	17 11	18 0	18 0	18 0
Rockhampton	16 11	17 0	17 2	17 3	17 3	17 3
Townsville	18 1	18 1	18 1	18 2	18 2	18 2
Bundaberg	13 5	13 6	13 7	13 9	14 0	14 1
Five Towns(b)	18 8	18 9	18 10	18 10	18 11	18 11
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—						
Adelaide	19 11	20 1	20 1	20 1	20 1	20 1
Kadina, etc.	8 2	8 1	8 1	8 0	8 0	8 1
Port Pirie	14 11	15 0	15 0	14 11	14 11	15 0
Mount Gambier	14 5	14 6	14 11	15 0	15 0	15 0
Peterborough	15 9	16 3	16 1	15 10	15 10	15 10
Five Towns(b)	19 3	19 5	19 5	19 5	19 5	19 4
WESTERN AUSTRALIA						
Perth	19 9	19 10	19 10	19 11	19 11	19 11
Kalgoorlie	27 8	27 7	27 5	23 11	21 9	21 9
Northam	18 7	18 8	18 9	18 10	18 10	18 10
Bunbury	21 1	21 0	21 0	20 7	20 4	20 5
Geraldton	22 4	22 4	22 5	22 3	22 2	22 3
Five Towns(b)	20 5	20 5	20 5	20 3	20 1	20 1
TASMANIA—						
Hobart	20 9	20 11	21 0	21 0	20 11	20 11
Launceston	19 1	19 3	19 3	19 4	19 4	19 4
Burnie	17 6	17 9	17 8	17 10	17 10	17 10
Devonport	16 0	16 1	16 2	16 2	16 2	16 2
Queenstown	16 11	17 0	17 0	16 11	16 10	16 10
Five Towns(b)	19 9	19 11	20 0	20 0	19 11	20 0
Thirty Towns(b)	21 2	21 4	21 5	21 5	21 5	21 5
Six Capitals(b)	21 8	21 10	21 11	21 11	21 11	21 11

(a) The rents are shown to the nearest penny. Revised series comparable only with averages published since December Quarter, 1936. See footnote (b) on page 9 and sub-paragraph (vii) on page 2 as to meaning of these averages.

(b) Weighted Average.

SECTION III.—RETAIL PRICES.

"Court" Series Index.*—In the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration—Quarterly Retail Prices Index Numbers.—Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5 rooms), Clothing and Miscellaneous Household Expenditure.—"Court" Series for September Quarter, 1943, to December Quarter, 1944.

(Base : Weighted Average—Six Capitals in 1923-27 = 81.0.)

Cities and Towns.	1943.		1944.			
	September Quarter.	December Quarter.	March Quarter.	June Quarter.	September Quarter.	December Quarter.
NEW SOUTH WALES—						
Sydney	93.4	92.5	92.5	92.5	92.8	92.5
Newcastle	90.0	88.9	88.8	88.2	88.5	88.6
Broken Hill	95.4	95.1	95.1	95.0	95.9	95.9
Goulburn	91.2	90.3	90.5	90.6	90.4	90.3
Bathurst	88.7	87.6	87.8	87.9	88.2	88.2
Weighted Average—5 Towns	93.2	92.2	92.2	92.2	92.5	92.1
VICTORIA—						
Melbourne	92.2	91.3	91.4	91.7	92.3	92.1
Ballarat	88.0	87.0	86.9	87.6	88.0	88.0
Bendigo	88.8	88.6	88.6	89.1	89.4	89.2
Geelong	90.4	89.1	89.3	90.0	90.5	90.3
Warrnambool	91.3	90.3	90.3	90.8	92.1	92.3
Weighted Average—5 Towns	92.0	91.1	91.1	91.4	92.0	91.8
QUEENSLAND—						
Brisbane	86.9	86.5	86.8	86.8	86.7	86.5
Toowoomba	87.3	87.7	88.0	87.8	87.8	87.8
Rockhampton	86.9	86.9	87.0	87.1	86.9	86.7
Townsville	90.2	90.1	90.3	90.6	90.4	90.3
Bundaberg	85.6	85.2	85.5	85.8	85.6	85.5
Weighted Average—5 Towns	87.1	86.8	87.0	87.1	87.0	86.9
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—						
Adelaide	89.5	89.0	88.9	88.7	89.1	88.9
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo	81.3	80.8	80.6	80.3	80.5	80.6
Port Pirie	88.3	87.5	87.5	87.2	87.8	87.4
Mount Gambler	86.4	85.5	85.6	85.6	86.7	86.6
Peterborough	88.2	87.7	87.7	87.6	88.6	88.2
Weighted Average—5 Towns	89.1	88.6	88.5	88.3	88.7	88.5
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—						
Perth, Fremantle	89.9	89.1	89.2	89.3	89.9	89.4
Kalgoorlie, Boulder	96.9	96.3	96.6	96.7	97.5	97.4
Northam	90.4	89.6	89.8	90.1	90.5	89.9
Bunbury	89.8	88.8	89.4	89.8	90.5	89.9
Geraldton	95.4	94.8	95.0	95.3	95.9	94.6
Weighted Average—5 Towns	90.5	89.7	89.9	90.0	90.5	90.0
TASMANIA—						
Hobart	91.1	90.4	89.5	89.1	89.9	89.5
Launceston	87.9	87.1	86.4	85.9	86.8	86.4
Burnie	88.6	88.2	87.1	85.5	86.5	85.7
Devonport	86.5	85.5	84.2	83.5	84.6	84.4
Queenstown	89.3	88.9	88.6	88.7	89.9	89.7
Weighted Average—5 Towns	89.7	89.1	88.2	87.7	88.6	88.2
Weighted Average—30 Towns	91.5	90.7	90.7	90.8	91.1	90.8
Weighted Average—6 Capitals	91.7	90.9	91.0	91.1	91.4	91.2

SPECIAL TOWNS NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES.

Warwick (Q.)	85.7	85.6	85.7	86.0	86.1	85.9
Port Augusta (S.A.)	87.2	86.6	86.6	86.6	87.8	87.4

* See page 36 for explanation.

Section IV.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Male Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of each State for a Full Week's Work at 31st December, 1944.

NOTE.—These rates are quoted from the latest Awards, Determinations, or Agreements which were in force at the 31st December, 1944, except in the case of the rates for certain farming occupations which are the ruling or predominant rates at that date. Where two or more Award, Determination, or Agreement Rates are quoted, the reason for such is that different rates of wage have been fixed for various classes or grades of work. In certain cases of this nature the wages are shown in the form (say) 11s. 0d. to 13s. 0d., indicating that in addition to the two rates specified there are also certain intermediate rates in force. In other cases the rates are shown in the form 12s. 1d. and 12s. 1d., indicating that there are only two minimum or standard rates in force for different classes or grades of work, and that there are no intermediate minimum or standard rates. Except where otherwise specified by a numerical prefix in small type, the hours of labour constituting a full week's work are 44, see footnotes below.

GROUP I.—WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILLS AND TIMBER YARDS.

Industry & Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Coopering—						
Coopers	135 0	153 0	129 6	129 0	148 6	129 6
Furniture—						
Cabinetmakers ..	133 0	131 0	133 7	126 0	123 11	127 0
Carpet Planners ..	133 0	131 0	..	126 0	123 11	127 0
Chairmakers ..	133 0	131 0	133 7	126 0	123 11	127 0
French Polishers ..	133 0	131 0	133 7	126 0	123 11	127 0
Upholsterers ..	133 0	126 0	133 7	121 0	123 11	122 0
Woodcarvers ..	133 0	131 0	133 7	126 0	123 11	127 0
Wood Machinists ..	133 0	111/ to 131/	133 7	106/ to 126/	120/9 & 123 11	109/ to 127/
Mattress Making—Wire—						
Finishers	128 0	119 0	127 2	114 0	..	115 0
Makers	128 0	115 6	127 2	110 6	120 11	113 6
Picture Framing—						
Compo. Workers ..	121 0	111 0	116 0	106 0	114 11	107 0
General Hands ..	121 0	111 0	116 0	106 0	114 11	107 0
Gilders	121 0	114 0	116 0	109 0	114 11	110 0
Mount Cutters ..	121 0	114 0	116 0	109 0	114 11	110 0
Saw Milling and Timber Yards—						
Box and Casemakers	116 0	115 0	107 0	110 0	107 5	111 0
Labourers	102 0	101 0	106 0	96 0	101 11	97 0
Machinists—						
Box Printing ..	108 0	107 0	..	102 0	..	103 0
Boulters Carver ..	129 0	128 0	115 4	123 0	124 5	124 0
Nailing	109 0	108 0	107 0	103 0	107 5	104 0
Planing	110/ to 123/	109/ to 122/	108 0	104/ to 117/	114/5 & 120 5	105 to 118/
Shaping	129 0	128 0	125 4	123 0	124 5	124 0
Ordermen	116 0	115 0	109 0	110 0	113 11	111 0
Saw Doctors ..	138 0	137 0	121 8	132 0	134 11	133 0
Sawyers—						
Band or Jlg ..	117/ to 132/	116/ to 131/	115 4	111/ to 126/	111/5 & 117/5	112/ to 127/
Circular	117/ to 125/	116/ to 124/	112 8	111/ to 119/	109/5 & 117/5	112/ to 120/
Stackers	104/ & 109/	103/ & 108/	106 0	98/ & 103/	104 11	99/ & 104/
Wood Turners ..	129 0	128 0	115 4	123 0	122 11	124 0

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.

Industry & Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Agricultural Implements						
Assemblers	120 0	111/ & 115/	106 0	106/ & 110/	107/5 & 110/11	115 0
Bulldozermen ..	..	116 0	..	111 0	..	..
Drillers	116/ to 135/	112 0	..	107 0	..	111 0
Fitters	120/ to 135/	117/ to 122/	..	112/ to 117/	114/11 & 117/11	115/ to 130/
Labourers—unskilled	102 0	101 0	..	96 0	99 11	97 0
Machinists—Iron ..	116/ to 135/	109/ to 134/	..	104/ to 129/	116/11 & 135/11	111/ to 130/
Painters—Brush ..	111 0	110 0	..	105 0	..	106 0
Scroll	110 0	119 0	..	114 0	..	105 0
Pattermakers ..	143 0	142 0	..	137 0	143 11	138 0
Sheet Iron Workers	123 0	122 0	..	117 0	..	118 0
Strikers	111/ & 113/	110/ & 112/	..	105/ & 107/	111 11	106/ & 108/

Various numbers of hours constituting a full week's work.

(1) 36 hours. (2) 38 hours. (3) 38½ hours. (4) 39 hours. (5) 40 hours. (6) 41 hours. (7) 41½ hours. (8) 42 hours. (9) 43 hours. (10) 43½ hours. (11) 45 hours. (12) 46 hours. (13) 47 hours. (14) 47½ hours. (15) 48 hours. (16) 55 hours. (17) 56 hours. (18) 62 hours. (19) 40 and 44 hours. (20) 42 and 44 hours. (21) 80 hours per fortnight. (22) 88 hours per fortnight.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Boiler Making—						
Journeymen ..	135 0	134 0	135 5	129 0	135 11	130 0
Railwaymen ..	135 0	134 0	130 10	129 0	135 11	130 0
Brassworking—						
Coremakers ..	114/ to 135/	..	135 5	108/ to 129/	..	..
Dressers ..	113/ & 118/	113/ & 135/	109 1	107/ & 112/	135 11	109/ to 130/
	..	112/ & 118/	..	..	113/11 & 115/11	108/ & 113/
Finishers ..	123/ to 135/	122/ to 134/	135/5	117/ to 130/	135 11	118/ to 130/
Furnacemen ..	117/ to 132/	116/ to 131/	109/11	111/ to 126/	117 11	112/ to 127/
			118/5			
Moulders ..	114/ to 135/	113/ to 134/	124/9 to 135/5	108/ to 129/	135 11	109/ to 130/
Cycles—						
Assemblers ..	111 0	116/6 to 122/	117/1 to 133/1	105 0	109/11 to 113/11	120/ & 127/
Frame Builders ..	120 0	122/ & 124/3	129 5	114 0	..	120/ & 127/
Repairers ..	120 0	122/ & 124/3	129 5	114 0	..	120/ & 127/
Turners (Motor) ..	132 0	131 0	133 1	126 0	135 11	127 0
Electrical Installation—						
Cable Joiners ..	132/ & 134/	131/ & 133/	131 1	126/ & 128/	126 11	127/ & 129/
Fitters ..	135 0	134 0	133 10	129 0	135 11	130 0
Mechanics ..	135 0	134 0	131 1	129 0	135 11	130 0
Patrolmen ..	113/6 & 126/	112/6 & 125/	108 9	107/6 & 120/	126 11	108/6 & 121/
Wiremen ..	126 0	125 0	131 1	120 0	126 11	121 0
Other Adults ..	..	..	106 0	..	99 11	..
Electrical Supply—						
Armature Winders ..	141 0	134 0	133 10	129 0	135 11	130 0
Cable Joiners ..	141 0	131/ & 133/	131 1	126/ & 128/	126 11	127/ & 129/
Instrument Makers ..	141 0	134 0	133 10	129 0	135 11	130 0
Lineamen ..	135 0	125 0	131 1	120 0	126 11	121 0
Meter Testers ..	135 0	119/ & 124/	131 1	114/ & 119/	..	115/ & 120/
Patrolmen—Night ..	..	112/6 & 125/	116 10	107/6 & 121/	..	108/6 & 121/
Shift Electricians ..	141 0	126/ & 134/	147 10	121/ & 129/	..	122/ & 130/
Switchboard Attendants ..	..	123 6	106 0	118 6	..	119 6
Other Adults ..	114 0	101 0	106 0	96 0	99 11	97 0
Electrical Trades—						
Fitters ..	135 0	134 0	133 10	129 0	135 11	130 0
Mechanics ..	135 0	134 0	131 1	129 0	135 11	130 0
Wiremen ..	126 0	125 0	131 1	120 0	126 11	121 0
Electroplating—						
Platers ..	110/ to 135/	109/ to 134/	121 0	104/ to 129/	110/11 to 135/11	105/ to 130/
Polishers ..	118 0	117 0	115/6 to 121/0	112 0	118 11	113 0
Engineering—						
Blacksmiths ..	136 0	135 0	139 1	130 0	135 11	131 0
Borers and Slotters ..	123/ to 135/	122/ to 134/	135 5	117/ to 129/	135 11	118/ to 130/
Brassfinishers ..	123/ to 135/	122/ to 134/	135 5	117/ to 129/	135 11	118/ to 130/
Coppersmiths ..	136 0	135 0	139 1	130 0	135 11	131 0
Drillers—Radial ..	112/ to 135/	111/ to 134/	116 5	106/ to 129/	135 11	107/ to 130/
Fitters ..	135 0	134 0	135 5	129 0	135 11	130 0
Millers ..	123/ to 135/	122/ to 134/	135 5	117/ to 129/	135 11	118/ to 130/
Patternmakers ..	143 0	142 0	140 9	137 0	143 11	138 0
Planers—						
Rail and Plate, Edge ..	123/ to 135/	122/ to 134/	113 9	117/ to 129/	113 11	118/ to 130/
Other ..	123/ to 135/	122/ to 134/	135 5	117/ to 129/	135 11	118/ to 130/
Shapers ..	123/ to 135/	122/ to 134/	135 5	117/ to 129/	135 11	118/ to 130/
Turners ..	135 0	134 0	135 5	129 0	135 11	130 0
Ironworking—Assistants—						
Boilermakers' Helpers ..	111 0	110 0	109 1	105 0	111 11	106 0
Labourers ..	111 0	110 0	107 5	105 0	99 11	106 0
Engineers' Labourers ..	111 0	110 0	107 5	105 9	111 11	106 0
Furnacemen's Assists. ..	111 0	110 0	107 5	105 0	111 11	106 0
Moulders' Labourers ..	111 0	110 0	107 5	105 0	111 11	106 0
Strikers ..	111/ & 113/	110/ & 112/	109 1	105/ & 107/	111 11	106/ & 108/

SECTION IV.—continued.

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Moulding—Iron—						
Coremakers—Machine ..	114/ to 125/	113/ to 124/	135 5	108/ to 119/	120 11	109/ to 120/
„ Other ..	135 0	134 0	135 5	129 0	135 11	130 0
Dressers and Fettlers ..	113/ & 116/	112/ & 115/	109 1	107/ & 110/	113/11 & 115 11	108/ & 111/
Furnaceman ..	117/ to 132/	116/ to 131/	109/1 to 118/5	111/ to 126/	117/11 to 132/11	112/ to 127/
Moulders—Machine ..	114/ to 125/	113/ to 124/	124 9	108/ to 119/	120 11	109/ to 120/
„ Other ..	135 0	134 0	135 5	129 0	135 11	130 0
Sheet Metal Working—						
Canister Makers ..	114 0	113 0	112 4	108 0	111 11	109 0
Japanners—						
Coating or Brush-work ..	110 0	109 0	114 2	104 0	..	105 0
Ornamental ..	123 0	122 0	114 2	117 0	..	..
Solderers ..	110/ to 114/	109/ to 113/	121 0	104/ & 108/	107 11	..
Tinsmiths ..	123/ to 135/	122/ to 134/	121 0	117/ & 129/	119/11 to 127/11	118/ & 130/
Nailmaking—						
Case Wires ..	108 0	101 0	102 0	94 0	..	..
Labourers ..	108 0	101 0	..	94 0	..	..
Setters Up ..	125 0	113 0	102 0	94/ to 108/6	..	..
Wire Working—						
Journeyman ..	123 0	116 0	..	109 0	110 5	..

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Aerated Water and Cordials—						
Bottlers ..	105 6	104 6	97 0	101 6	104 11	109 6
Drivers (Motor) ..	112/ to 119/	110/ to 119/	106/ to 114/	108/ to 115/	111 11	105/ to 112/
„ (One Horse) ..	107 0	107 0	104 0	103 0	111 11	100 0
Packers ..	103 0	102 0	97 0	98 6	104 11	107 6
Wires ..	103 0	102 0	..	98 6	104 11	107 6
Baking (Bread)—						
Board Hands ..	139 0	139 4	115/ to 120/	126 0	123 11	126 0
Carters (One Horse) ..	128 0	107 0	106 0	103 0	110 5	100 0
Doughmen ..	149/ & 151/6	139 4	112 6	131 0	128 11	126 0
Ovenmen ..	146 6	139 4	120 0	126 0	123 11	126 0
Singlehands ..	144 0	148 6	122 6	131 0	128 11	131 0
Baking (Biscuits and Cakes)—						
Adult Males ..	105 0	105 0	101 0	94 0	109 11	..
Bakers ..	120 0	115 0	108 6	99 0	119 11	114 6
Mixers ..	109/ & 111/	115 0	108 6	97 0	109 11	119 0
Brewing—						
Adult Males ..	112 0	119 0	108 0	118 0	119 6	108 0
Bottlers and Washers ..	112 0	119 0	108 0	118 0	119 6	108 0
Cellarmen ..	112/ & 115/	122 3	118 0	118 0	119 6	111 0
Drivers (Two Horses) ..	115 0	112 0	110 0	121 0	119 6	105 0
„ (Motor under 3 tons) ..	121 0	112/ to 116/	110/ to 118/	127 0	120 6	105/ to 109/
Towermen ..	115 0	123 0	108 0	125 0	119 6	115 6
Butchering (Carcase)—						
Chilling Room Hands ..	116/ & 120/	137 6	114 6	113/3 to 121/	114 11	124 6
Labourers (Beef) ..	119 0	108 6	102 0	113 3	109 11	105 0
„ (Mutton) ..	113 0	108 6	102 0	113 3	109 11	105 0
Scalders ..	150 0	117 0	114 6	124 10	109 11	105 0
Slaughtermen (Beef) ..	191 6	134 0	124 6	140 7	127 5	134 6
„ (Mutton) ..	(a)	134 0	124 6	136 0	127 5	134 6

(a) Piecework rates.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Butchering (Retail)—						
Carters (Cash Cutting) ..	124 0	123 0	118 0	118 0	120 11	104 0
" ..	108 0	107 0	102 0	102 0	104 11	100 0
General Hands ..	127 0	126 0	121 0	121 0	120 11	117 0
Shopmen ..	127 0	126 0	121 0	121 0	120/11 & 124/11	119 6
Smallgoodsmen ..	127 0	126 0	121 0	121 0	120 11	119 6
Cold Storage and Ice—						
Chamber Hands ..	119/ to 126/	137 6	105 9	111 0	107 5	114 9
Fullers and Stackers..	119/ & 126/	125 5	109 0	111 0	107 5	114 9
Confectionery—						
Journeymen ..	125 0	114 0	109 6	99/ to 104/6	114/11 to 140/5	110 0
Storemen ..	104 0	107/ & 111/	102 0	108 0	116 8	109 0
Ham and Bacon Curing—						
Curers—First Hand ..	140 0	137 0	133 11	133 0	127 11	119 6
Cutters Up—First Hand	126 0	137 0	128 0	133 0	120 11	119 6
Ham Baggers ..	..	115 0	122 0	111 0	114 5	117 0
Lardmen ..	110 6	115/ & 124/6	122 0	111/ to 120/6	118 5	117 0
Rollers and Trimmers	118 0	124 6	115 10	120 6	114/5 & 118/5	117 0
Scalders ..	125 0	124 6	124 6	120 6	120 11	117 0
Slaughtermen ..	130 0	137 0	136 5	133 0	127 11	127 6
Smallgoodsmen—						
First Hand ..	127 0	125 0	133 11	121 0	127 11	119 6
Smokers—First Hand	120 0	124 6	128 0	120 6	127 11	119 6
Jam Making and Pres-						
erving—						
Adult Males ..	107 0	107 0	102 0	107 0	99 11	107 0
Solderers ..	114 0	114 0	121 0	114 0	107 11	114 0
Maltng—						
Maltsters ..	114 0	114 0	97 0	118 0	119 6	152 0
Milling—Condiments—						
Grinders ..	124 0	118 0	107 6	..	..	..
Mixers or Blenders ..	124 0	117 0	98 6	..	..	..
Stone Dressers ..	124 0	125 6	98 6	..	..	..
Milling—Flour—						
Millers—Head ..	142 0	142 0	131 6	142 0	142 0	128 9
" Shift ..	136/6 to 147/	136/6 to 147/	123/ to 131/	136/6 to 147/	136/6 to 147/	119/3 to 127/9
Packermen ..	121 6	121 6	111 6	121 6	121 6	109 9
Purifiers ..	122 6	122 6	111 6	122 6	122 6	105 0
Silksmen ..	122 6	122 6	111 6	122 6	122 6	105 0
Storemen—Head ..	124/6 & 129/6	124/6 & 129/6	116 6	124/6 & 129/6	124/6 & 129/6	114 6
Topmen ..	122 6	122 6	111 6	122 6	122 6	109 9
Truckers and Others..	111/6 & 117/6	111/6 & 117/6	..	111/6 & 117/6	111/6 & 117/6	105 0
Milling—Oatmeal—						
Kilnmen ..	114 0	113 0	98 6	..	..	105/ & 109/9
Millers—Head ..	124 6	125 6	111/6 to 126/6	..	..	128 9
Pastrycooking—						
Carters ..	111 2	107 0	104 0	102 0	109 5	100 0
Pastrycooks ..	125 6	124 0	125 0	125 0	123/11 & 128/11	119 0

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Bootmaking—						
Bootmakers ..	126 6	126 6	126 6	126 6	115 11	126 6
Tailoring—Order—						
Cutters ..	177 6	137 0	137 0	137 0	139 11	137 0
Pressers ..	127 0	127 0	127 0	127 0	118 11	127 0
Tailors ..	127 0	127 0	127 0	127 0	118 11	127 0
Trimmers ..	127 0	127 0	127 0	127 0	118 11	127 0

SECTION IV.—*continued.*GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Tailoring—Ready-made—						
Cutters	130 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	119 11	130 0
Folders	110 6	110 6	110 6	110 6	..	110 6
Machinists	127 0	127 0	127 0	127 0	..	127 0
Pressers	127 0	127 0	127 0	127 0	118 11	127 0
Tailors	127 0	127 0	127 0	127 0	118/11 & 119/11	127 0
Trimmers	127 0	127 0	127 0	127 0	118 11	127 0
Textile-Working—Woollen						
Mills—						
Carders	106 0	106 0	102 0	103 0	106 0	106 0
Dyehousemen ..	107 0	107 0	102 0	104 0	107 0	107 0
Labourers—General ..	100 0	100 0	98 0	97 0	100 0	100 0
Pattern Weavers ..	109 0	109 0	..	106 0	109 0	109 0
Scourers	110/6 to 113/	110/6 to 113/	102 0	107/6 to 110/	110/6 to 113/	110/6 to 113/
Spinners	106 0	106 0	108 0	103 0	106 0	106 0
Tuners	107/ to 124/	107/ to 124/	102/ to 112/	104/ to 121/	107/ to 124/	107/ to 124/

GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Bookbinding—						
Bookbinders	132 0	131 0	126 0	126 0	127 0	127 0
Finishers	132 0	131 0	126 0	126 0	127 0	127 0
Marblers	132 0	131 0	126 0	126 0	127 0	127 0
Paper Rulers	132 0	131 0	126 0	126 0	127 0	127 0
Engraving (Process)—(a)						
Engravers	131 6	131/ & 136/	..	113 0	129 11	..
Etchers—Half-tone ..	137 6	131/ & 136/	127 0	125/6 & 135/6	129 11	..
Etchers—Line	131 6	131/ & 136/	122 0	116/6 & 126/6	122 11	..
Operators	137 6	131/ & 136/	127 0	..	129 11	..
Printers	131 6	131/ & 136/	117 0	106/6 & 116/6	122 11	..
Router	116 6	131 0	114 0	106/6 & 116/6	114 8	..
Lithographing—						
Printers	132 0	131 0	126 0	127 0	127 0	127 0
Rotary Machinists ..	133 0	131 0	126 0	127 0	127 0	127 0
Stone Polishers	112 0	110 0	105 0	106 0	106 0	106 0
Printing (Daily News- papers)—						
Compositors—						
Day Work	¹ 138 6	¹ 155/6 & 172/	131 10	150 0	161 5	144 6
Night Work	¹ 148 6	¹ 165/6 & 182/	¹ 139 2	¹ 159 0	¹ 174 2	¹ 153 6
Linotype Attendants—						
Day Work	¹ 138 6	¹ 137 0	118 0	110 0	148 8	108 6
Night Work	¹ 148 6	¹ 147 0	¹ 123 0	¹ 119 0	¹ 161 5	¹ 117 6
Linotype Operators—						
Day Work	¹ 169/6 & 179/6	¹ 143 3	143 6	150 0	¹ 170 9	144 6
Night Work	¹ 179/6 & 189/6	¹ 153 3	¹ 150 11	¹ 159 0	¹ 183 6	¹ 153 6
Machinists (First Hand)—						
Day Work	¹ 138 6	¹ 145 0	140 6	150 0	152 11	144 6
Night Work	¹ 148 6	¹ 163 0	¹ 145 6	¹ 159 0	¹ 165 8	¹ 153 6
Publishers	¹ 118/6 & 128/6	¹ 155/6 & 165/6	107/ to 123/	117 0	¹ 137/7 & 150/4	111 6
Readers—						
Day Work	¹ 146 6	¹ 155 6	128 0	141 0	161 5	135 6
Night Work	¹ 156 6	¹ 165 6	¹ 133 0	¹ 150 0	¹ 174 2	¹ 144 6
Readers' Assistants—						
Day Work	¹ 115 6	¹ 124 0	113 0	114 0	132 6	108 6
Night Work	¹ 125 6	¹ 126/6 & 134/	¹ 118 0	¹ 123 0	¹ 145 6	¹ 117 6
Stereotypers (First Class)—						
Day Work	¹ 131 6	¹ 138 0	120/6 to 128/	129 0	¹ 146 7	123 6
Night Work	¹ 141 6	¹ 148 0	¹ 125/6 to 131/	¹ 138 0	¹ 149 3	¹ 132 6

(a) Other than in newspaper offices.

SECTION IV.—continued.

GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Printing (Job Offices)—						
Compositors ..	²⁰ 132/ & 141/	²⁰ 131/ & 140/	²⁰ 126/ & 135/	²⁰ 126/ & 135/	²⁰ 127/ & 136/	²² 127/ & 136/
Electrotypers ..	132 0	131 0	126 0	126 0	127 0	127 0
General Hands ..	102 0	101 0	96 0	96 0	97 0	97 0
Linotype Operators ..	141 0	140 0	135 0	135 0	136 0	136 0
Machinists ..	132 0	131 0	126 0	126 0	127 0	127 0
Monotype Operators ..	141 0	140 0	135 0	135 0	136 0	136 0
Monotype Casting						
Machinists ..	132 0	131 0	126 0	126 0	127 0	127 0
Readers ..	135 0	134 0	129 0	129 0	130 0	130 0
Stereotypers ..	132 0	131 0	126 0	126 0	127 0	127 0

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Brickmaking—						
Burners ..	129/ & 134/6	116 0	105 0	104 10	107/5 & 120/11	108 9
Carters—Two horses ..	117 6	112 0	109 0	108 0	114 5	105 0
Drawers ..	129 0	118/ & 120/6	99 6	112 10	(a)	108 9
Labourers ..	107 0	106 0	97 8	101 10	107 5	106 0
Machinemmen ..	120/9 & 126/3	115 0	99 6	104/10 & 108/10	107/5 & 110/5	106 0
Panmen ..	114/ & 129/	113/ & 117/	97 8	104 10	107 5	106 0
Pitmen ..	126 3	123/ & 129/	99 6	109 10	105 5	106 0
Setters ..	129 0	118/ & 120/6	97/8 & 99/6	112 10	115 5	111 6
Wheelers ..	123 6	112 6	97/8 & 99/6	101 10	107 5	106 0
Brushmaking—						
Bass Broom Drawers ..	121 6	118 0	114 6	109 0	114 11	..
Finishers ..	121 6	118 0	114 6	109 0	114 11	..
Machinists—Boring ..	121 6	118 0	114 6	109 0	114 11	..
Paint Brush Makers ..	126 0	123 0	114 6	113 0	114 11	..
Candle Making—						
Acidifiers ..	107 6	122 6	..	109 0	..	..
General Hands ..	104 0	112/ to 117/	..	103 0	99 11	..
Glycerine Distillers ..	111 0	122 6	..	109 0	109 11	..
Moulders ..	111 0	117 0	..	109 0	108 11	..
Stillmen ..	114 0	122 6	..	109 0	..	..
Cardboard Box Makers—						
Gullotine and other Cutters ..	114/ to 123/6	113/ to 122/6	112 0	108/ to 117/6	109/ to 118/6	109/ to 118/6
Other Adults ..	102 0	101 0	99 6	96 0	97 0	97 0
Coachmaking (Road)—						
Bodymakers ..	131/ & 135/	130/ & 134/	125 0	125/ & 129/	129 11	126/ & 130/
Labourers ..	102 0	101 0	103 0	96 0	99 11	97 0
Painters ..	113/6 to 131/	112/6 to 130/	125 0	107/6 to 125/	126 11	108/6 to 126/
Smiths ..	136 0	135 0	125 0	130 0	129 11	131 0
Trimmers ..	131 0	130 0	125 0	125 0	126 11	126 0
Wheelmaking chinnists ..	115/ to 135/	114/ to 134/	125 0	109/ to 129/	122 11	110/ to 130/
Wheelwrights ..	131 0	130 0	125 0	125 0	126 11	126 0
Fellmongering—						
Bate Hands ..	115 0	114 0	116 0	109 0	104 11	107 0
Green Hands ..	115 0	114 0	116 0	109 0	104 11	107 0
Limepit Men ..	115 0	114 0	116 0	109 0	104 11	107 0
Machinists ..	118 0	117 0	119 0	112 0	107 11	110 0
Soakhole Men ..	118 0	117 0	119 0	112 0	107 11	110 0
Wool Sorters ..	125/ to 129/	124/ to 128/	126/ to 130/	119/ to 123/	117/11 & 123/11	117/ & 121/

(a) Piece-work rates.

SECTION IV.—continued.

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Gas Making and Supply—						
Coke Trimmers ..	111 0	109 0	103 0	99 6	105 11	105 0
Gas Fitters ..	137 0	146 10	⁶ 123 7	129 8	139 8	133 10
Labourers ..	102 0	101 0	103 0	93 0	105 11	97 0
Mainlayers ..	107 0	120 0	120 0	120/ to 123/	117 11	116 0
Metermakers ..	133 0	132 0	..	123/ to 129/	127 11	115 0
Meter Testers ..	110/ to 120/	125 9	..	111 0	..	115/ to 120/
Service Layers ..	125 0	120 0	120 0	125 0	117 11	116 0
Stokers ..	123 0	117/ to 125/	130 0	109/ & 111/	111 11	113/ to 121/
Glassfoundry—						
Furnacemen ..	110 6	110 0	..	104 6	..	..
Labourers ..	101 6	101 0	..	95 6	..	..
Lehrmen ..	¹⁴ 105 0	104 6	..	99 0	..	..
Sorters ..	104 0	103 6	..	98 0	..	..
Glass Working and Glazing						
Bevellers ..	132 10	126 0	120 0	121 0	130 10	122 0
Cutters and Glaziers ..	129 6	126 0	114 0	121 0	130 10	122 0
Lead Light Glaziers ..	129 6	126 0	⁸ 114 0	121 0	130 10	121 0
Silverers ..	132 10	126 0	123 7	121 0	..	121 0
Jewellery, Clock and Watchmaking—						
Chainmakers ..	125 0	125 6	109 0	111 0	123 11	⁶ 120 0
Engravers ..	125 0	125 6	109/ to 112/	113 0	123 11	⁶ 120 0
Mounters ..	125 0	125 6	109/ to 112/	119 0	123 11	⁶ 120 0
Setters ..	125 0	125 6	..	119 0	123 11	⁶ 120 0
Watch and Clockmakers and Repairers	134 0	100/ to 120/	114 6	119 6	124 11	⁶ 120 0
Masonry—Marble and Stone—						
Carvers ..	⁶ 173 2	⁶ 167 0	141 10	⁶ 162 0	139 8	..
Machinists—Carborundum ..	⁶ 146 8	125/ & 134/	141 10	120/ to 128/	99 11	..
Other ..	123 2	⁶ 125/ to 139/	141 10	⁶ 120/ to 134/	99 11	..
Masons ..	⁶ 146 6	⁶ 139 0	141 10	⁶ 134 0	139 8	131 0
Paper Bag Making—						
Guillotine Cutters ..	114 0	113 0	115 6	108 0	109 0	109 0
Machinists ..	119 6	118 6	115 6	113 6	114 6	114 6
Paper Making—						
Beatermen ..	128/ & 130/	129 0	..	..	..	113 6
Breakermen ..	103 0	114/ to 117/	..	..	..	97 0
Guillotine Men ..	115 0	112 0	..	..	..	103 0
Machinists ..	126/ & 133/	132 0	..	..	..	121/ & 131/
Raciboilermen ..	115 0	112/ to 117/	..	..	..	..
Other Adults ..	103 0	102 0	..	..	..	91 0
Potteries—General—						
Burners—Head ..	116 0	113 0	105 0	104 10	113 11	102 0
Hollow-ware Pressers ..	122 0	108 0	97 8	104 10	113 11	102 0
Sanitary Pressers ..	128 0	109 0	97 8	104 10	113 11	103 0
Throwers—1st Class ..	129/ & 132/	115 0	116 0	..	113 11	105 0
Potteries—Pinemaking—						
Burners—Head ..	125 0	113 0	111 0	112 0	113 11	102 0
Drawers ..	117 6	107 0	99 6	106 0	99 11	..
Moulders ..	124 6	103 0	97 8	116 0	113 11	99 0
Mould Makers ..	117 6	115 0	99 6	116 0	111 11	..
Setters ..	121 6	111 0	97 8	109/ & 112/	103/11 & 115/11	100 6
Quarrying—						
Borers—						
Hand or Machine ..	124 10	126 0	106 2	111 0	108 8	109 0
Dressers ..	131 0	133 0	109 10	111 0	..	103 7
Facemen ..	125 10	129 0	106 2	111 0	..	103 7
Hammermen ..	122 4	133 0	106 2	111 0	108 8	103 7
Machine Feeders ..	127 8	126 0	101/7 & 105/8	111 0	114 5	109 0
Quarrymen ..	131 0	..	109 10	111 0	108 8	112 6

SECTION IV.—*continued.*GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Rubber Working—						
Calendar Hands ..	127/ & 132/	126/ & 131/	113/ & 117/	..	..	..
Cycle Tyre Makers ..	109 0	108 0	..	..	..	109 0
Dough Mixers ..	109 0	108 0	109 6	..	..	..
Hosemakers ..	111/ & 118/	110/ & 117/	109 6	..	..	..
Mechanical Lathe Hands ..	111/ to 115/6	110/ to 114/6	109 6	..	..	..
Mill Hands ..	109/ & 118/	108/ & 117/	109 6	..	..	..
Spreaders ..	112/ & 118/	111/ & 117/	109 6	..	..	..
Surgical Packing, and other Makers ..	111/ & 120/	110/ & 119/	104/6 & 109/6	..	..	..
Tyre Moulders ..	109/ to 115/6	108/ to 114/6	104 6	105 9	..	109 0
Saddlery and Harness-making—						
Harness makers ..	123 0	123 0	123 0	119 0	121 11	123 0
Saddlers ..	123 0	123 0	123 0	119 0	121 11	123 0
Sail Making—						
Sailmakers ..	123 0	123 0	123 0	119 0	..	123 0
Ship Building—						
Carpenters and Joiners ..	149 4	149 4	149 4	149 4	149 4	149 4
Dockers ..	146 10	146 10	146 10	146 10	146 10	146 10
Painters ..	146 10	146 10	146 10	146 10	146 10	146 10
Shipwrights ..	144 2	144 2	144 2	144 2	144 2	144 2
Soap Making—						
General Hands ..	104 0	111/ to 115/6	102 0	103 0	99 11	94/ to 99/
Mixers ..	111 0	114/ to 123/	102 0	109 0	106 11	99 0
Soap Makers ..	126 0	125 6	102 0	144 0	109 11	119 0
Tanning and Currying—						
Beamsmen ..	116 0	116 0	116 0	116 0	116 0	116 0
Curriers ..	131 0	131 0	131 0	131 0	131 0	131 0
Japanners or Enamellers ..	117 6	117 6	117 6	117 6	117 6	117 6
Linnemen and Yardmen ..	114 0	114 0	114 0	114 0	114 0	114 0
Machinists—						
Fleshing ..	121 0	121 0	121 0	121 0	121 0	121 0
Scouring ..	112 0	112 0	112 0	112 0	112 0	112 0
Splitting ..	127/ & 129/	127/ & 129/	127/ & 129/	127/ & 129/	127/ & 129/	127/ & 129/
Unhairing ..	116 0	116 0	116 0	116 0	116 0	116 0
Rollers and Strikers ..	116 6	116 6	116 6	116 6	116 6	116 6
Tablemen ..	116/ & 116/6	116/ & 116/6	116/ & 116/6	116/ & 116/6	116/ & 116/6	116/ & 116/6
Tent and Tarpaulin Making—						
Cutters ..	117 0	117 0	117 0	113 0	..	117 0
Machinists ..	117 0	117 0	117 0	113 0	..	117 0
Sewers—Hand ..	117 0	117 0	117 0	113 0	..	117 0
Tent Makers ..	117 0	117 0	117 0	113 0	121 11	117 0

GROUP VII.—BUILDING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Building—						
Bricklayers—						
Sewer and Tunnel..	149 0	156 5	⁵ 123 7	122 6	145 2	137/ & 143/
Surface ..	143 6	148 10	⁵ 123 7	122 6	139 2	131 0
Carpenters ..	149 0	141 0	⁵ 126 4	137 0	139 8	131 0
Labouring (Builders)..	108 0	107 0	⁵ 106 11	103 0	108 5	103 0
Lathers ..	143 6	141 0	⁵ 123 7	..	..	131 0
Metal Cellars ..	133 6	141 0	⁵ 123 7	..	139 8	131 0
Masons ..	⁵ 146 6	140 0	⁵ 141 10	122 6	139 8	131 0
Painters, Paperhangers ..	136 6	132 6	⁵ 123 7	118 0	138 8	131 0
Signwriters ..	143 10	132 6	⁵ 124 7	118 0	138 8	131 0

SECTION IV.—continued.

GROUP VII.—BUILDING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Building—continued—						
Plasterers—						
Sewer or Tunnel ..	151 6	156 7	¹ 129/7 & 132/7	122 6	139/2 to 145/2	137/ & 143/
Surface ..	146 0	143 9	¹ 123 7	122 6	139 2	131 0
Plumbers, Gasfitters..	144 10	146 10	¹ 123 7	129 8	139 8	141 2
Slaters ..	143 6	146 8	¹ 123 7	..	..	..
Tilers ..	143 6	146 8	¹ 123 7	122 6	139 2	..
Tuckpointers ..	143 6	128 0	¹ 123 7	122 6	..	..
Water Supply and						
Sewerage—						
Concrete Workers ..	106/ to 121/11	135 2	108/ to 117/	100/ to 106/	105 11	100/ to 109/
Labourers ..	103/ to 114/7	112 8	99/ to 102/6	94 0	99 11	97 0
Miners—Sewer ..	127/10 to 146/9	122/8 to 128/2	124 6	100 0	99/11 to 119/11	109 0
Pipe-jointers and Setters ..	114/7 to 119/6	124 8	102/6 to 115/6	100/ to 106/	111/11 & 117/11	121 0

GROUP VIII.—MINING.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Coal Mining—						
Blacksmiths ..	¹ 139 10	¹ 142 0	¹ 135/ to 145/10	..	¹ 123 8	¹ 134 10
Bracemen ..	¹ 133 2	¹ 125 0	¹ 120/10 to 154/2	..	..	..
Carpenters ..	¹ 143 7	¹ 142 0	¹ 130/ to 146/8	..	..	¹ 124 0
Deputies ..	¹ 123/7 & 129/10	¹ 129 2	¹ 137/11 & 153/4	..	¹ 175 1	..
Engine Drivers—						
Winding and Loco.	¹ 134/6 to ¹ 159/1	¹ 133/9 & 138/4	¹ 128/6 & 132/	..	¹ 138/10 & 144/4	¹ 129/11 & 132/10
Other ..	¹ 126/7 to ¹ 138/11	¹ 130 9	¹ 123/ & 151/	..	..	¹ 121/2 to 135/4
Labourers—						
Surface ..	¹ 123 7	¹ 109/7 & 114/7	¹ 117/11 to 134/2	..	¹ 119/5 & 124/11	¹ 119 5
Underground ..	¹ 126 6	¹ 117/1 & 122/1	¹ 117/11 to 134/2	..	..	..
Miners—						
Machine ..	(a)	(a)	¹ 134/7 & 157/6	..	¹ 136/4 & 175/0	¹ 136 1
Manual—Dry Work	(a)	(a)	(a)	..	¹ 136/4 & 140/10	..
Platmen or Banksmen	..	¹ 131 3	¹ 119 9	..	¹ 119/5 to 124/6	..
Shiftmen—						
Dry Work ..	¹ 123/7 to 140/8	¹ 131 3 ¹ 137 6	¹ 130/10 to 134/2	..	¹ 136/4 to 165/7	¹ 133 2
Wet Work ..	..	..	¹ 139/11 to 143/2	..	..	..
Shotfirers ..	¹ 161 2	..	¹ 130/10 & 146/8	..	¹ 130/10 to 145/11	..
Timbermen ..	¹ 140/8 to 145/8	¹ 135 5	¹ 130/10 to 146/8	..	¹ 136/4 to 151/5	..
Weighmen ..	¹ 127 9	..	..	..	..	..
Wheelers ..	¹ 127/4 to 129/10	¹ 122 11	¹ 121/3 to 139/7	..	¹ 123/1 to 138/2	¹ 119 5
Gold and Other Mining						
(except Coal)—					(c)	
Battery Feeders ..	102/ to 110/	101/ to 104/	¹ 107/4 to 128/5	(b)	¹ 125 0	97/ & 101/
Bracemen ..	¹ 108/6 to 116/6	109/ & 112/	¹ 100/ & 121/1	..	¹ 134 0	¹ 104/ to 108/

(a) Piece-work rates.
reliable information.(b) Very little gold is produced and difficulty is experienced in obtaining
(c) Excludes District Allowances.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*GROUP VIII.—MINING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Gold and Other Mining (except Coal)— <i>contd.</i>						
Engine Drivers— Stationary ..	108/ to 127/	107/ to 116/	1 ¹⁰ 106/ to 142/2	..	(a) 1 ¹⁰ 139/ to 146/	104/ to 111/
Winding and Loco.	114/ to 136/	110/ to 126/	1 ¹⁰ 121/ to 151/4	..	1 ¹⁰ 142/ to 178/	104/ to 121/
Firemen ..	103/6 to 116/6	106/ to 120/2	1 ¹⁰ 106/ to 120/2	..	1 ¹⁰ 131/ to 137/	95/ to 101/
Labourers ..	102/ to 110/	101/ & 104/	1 ¹⁰ 97/3 to 119/5	..	1 ¹⁰ 125 0	97/ & 101/
Miners— Machine ..	1 ¹⁰ 116/ to 131/6	104/ to 110/	1 ¹⁰ 103/ to 129/4	..	1 ¹⁰ 138/ to 145/	97/ to 104/
Manual— Dry Work ..	1 ¹⁰ 116/ to 126/6	110/ to 119/	1 ¹⁰ 103/ to 129/4	..	1 ¹⁰ 133/ to 140/	104/ to 113/
Wet Work ..	1 ¹⁰ 121/ to 131/6	115/ to 124/	1 ¹⁰ 110/6 to 138/6	..	1 ¹⁰ 142/ to 149/	108 to 118/
Platmen ..	1 ¹⁰ 108/6 to 121/6	108/ & 111/	1 ¹⁰ 100/ to 121/1	..	1 ¹⁰ 134 0	102/ & 106/
Shaft Sinkers— Dry Work ..	1 ¹⁰ 118/6 & 126/6	119/ & 122/	1 ¹⁰ 103/ to 129/4	..	1 ¹⁰ 133/ to 140/	112/ & 116/
Wet Work ..	1 ¹⁰ 123/6 & 131/6	124/ & 129/	1 ¹⁰ 110/6 to 138/6	..	1 ¹⁰ 142/ to 149/	117/ & 123/
Timbermen ..	1 ¹⁰ 117/ & 134/	113/ to 121/	1 ¹⁰ 108/3 to 129/4	..	1 ¹⁰ 140/ to 145/	106/ to 115/

GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Railways(b)— Engine Drivers (Loco.)—						
1st Class ..	155/ & 168/	154/ & 160/	141 9	149/ to 155/	148/11 & 151/11	148/ to 154/
2nd Class ..	149 0	148 0	136 3	143 0	140 11	142 0
3rd Class ..	143 0	142 0	129 10	137 0	132 11	136 0
4th Class ..	137 0	136 0	123 5	131 0	129 11	130 0
5th Class ..	132 6	130 0	123 5	125 0	129 11	124 0
Firemen—						
1st Class ..	128/ & 131/	115/ to 121/	117 0	110/ to 116/	123 11	109/ to 115/
2nd Class ..	125 0	112 0	111 6	107 0	117 11	106 0
3rd Class ..	114/ & 119/	109 0	111 6	104 0	112 11	103 0
Guards—						
1st Class ..	140 0	139 0	133 6	129/6 & 134/	129 11	116/6 to 122/6
2nd Class ..	129/ to 134/	124/ to 133/	128 0	125/ & 128/	126 11	113 6
3rd Class ..	116/ to 123/6	124/ to 133/	117 11	116/ & 119/	123 11	110 6
Porters ..	104/ to 128/	109/ to 112/	102/2 & 105/10	95/ to 120/6	102/11 to 110/5	94/ to 112/
Shunters—						
1st Class ..	138/6 & 141/6	136/ & 139/	138 0	123/6 & 126/6	120 11	113 6
2nd Class ..	131/ & 134/	128/6 & 131/6	130 8	116/ & 119/	114 11	109 0
3rd Class ..	116/ & 126/6	112/ to 119/6	127 0	116 0	111 11	109 0
Ordinary ..	116/ & 123/6	112/ to 119/6	113 3	116 0	111 11	106 0
Signalmen— Special ..	..	146 6	126/ to 145/3	126/6 & 135/6	1 ¹⁰ 134 5	..
1st Class ..	147 6	136 0	124 2	122 0	123 11	112 0
2nd Class ..	144 6	125 6	119 7	119 0	117 11	109 0
3rd Class ..	138 6	119 6	113 2	114 6	110 5	106 0
4th Class ..	132 6	115 0	108 7	110 0	105 11	..

(a) Excludes district allowances. (b) Hours in the above industry are based generally on 88 per fortnight.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Tramways (Electric and Cable)—						
Car Washers or Cleaners	105 0	113 0	111 7	102/ to 105/	..	100 6
Conductors—						
1st Year ..	111/ & 113/	113 0	108/ & 110/6	104/ to 106/	102 5	102 0
2nd Year ..	116 0	116 0	110/6 & 113/	106 0	114 11	106 0
3rd Year ..	118 0	119 0	113/ & 123/	110 0	..	106 0
Horse Drivers ..	..	114 0	..	..	..	..
Labourers ..	105 0	107 0	100 0	103/ & 104/	99 11	100 6
Maintenance Men ..	105/ & 111/	116 0	108/7 & 119/7	106/ & 109/	109 11	104 6
Motormen—						
1st Year ..	121 6	113 0	108/ & 110/6	106 0	114 11	103 6
2nd Year ..	121 6	116 0	110/6 & 113/	109 0	114 11	107 6
3rd Year ..	121 6	119 0	113/6 & 123/	112 0	114 11	107 6
Overhead Wiremen—						
Leading ..	134 0	127 0	146 1	113/ & 115/6	122 11	116 6
Other ..	112/ to 128/	127 0	131 1	107 0	..	110 6
Pitmen ..	122 0	125 0	119/10 to 122/8	106/ to 114/	114 11	112 6
Signalmen ..	126/ to 131/	122/ & 128/	119/ & 123/	115/ to 121/6	..	..
Track Cleaners ..	104 0	113 0	107 0	103/ & 106/	102/11 to 114/11	101 6

GROUP X.—OTHER LAND TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Carrying—Merchandise—						
Carriers—						
One Horse ..	110 0	107 0	107 0	103 0	109 5	100 0
Two Horses ..	115 0	112 0	112 0	107 0	114 5	105 0
Corporation Carters—						
One Horse ..	112 6	107 0	99 0	102 0	109 5	100 0
Two Horses ..	117 6	112 0	101 9	107 0	114 5	105 0
Jinkers—						
One Horse ..	110 0	113 0	114 0	108 0	117 5	106 0
Two Horses ..	115 0	116 0	119 0	111 0	122 5	109 0
Sanitary Carters ..	128/ to 133/	113 0	108 0	108 0	133 11	106 0
Stable Hands ..	109/6 to 114/6	102 6	100 0	97 6	108 5	97 0
Motor Lorries and Wagons—						
Under 3 tons ..	112/ to 122/	112/ & 116/	109/ to 117/	107/ & 111/	114/5 & 118/5	105/ to 109/
3 tons or over ..	126/ to 130/	119 0	122/ to 127/	114 0	122/5 to 127/5	112 0
Lift Attendants—						
Goods ..	105 0	109 0	103/ & 105/	101 0	110 3	..
Passenger ..	105 0	109 0	97/ & 99/	101 0	107 9	..

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP XI.—SHIPPING, WHARF LABOUR, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Waterside Working—	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Wharf Labourers per hour <i>a</i>	3 8½	3 8½	3 8½ to 4 1½	3 8½	3 8½	3 8½
Passenger Vessels—Interstate <i>b</i>—						
Bakers per month			379/6 to 482/c			
Barmen "			379/d			
Butchers "			412/ to 457/c			
Cooks—						
Chief "			534/6 to 567/c			
Second "			447/c			
Third "			379/6c			
Ships "			434/c			
Pantrymen "			402/ and 412/c			
Scullerymen "			352/c			
Stewards—						
Chief Saloon "			497/d			
Second "			457/d			
Second Saloon "			424/6d			
Fore Cabin "			412/d			
Bedroom "						
and Other "			367/ to 389/6d			
All Vessels—Interstate						
A.B. Seamen per month			414/6			
Boatswains "			434/6			
Donkeymen "			474/6			
Firemen "			454/6			
Greasers "			454/6			
Lamp Trimmers "			434/6			
Fuel Trimmers "			414/6			
Marine Engineers <i>b e g</i>—		<i>Vessels (Steam).</i>		<i>Vessels (Steam).</i>		
Chief per month		100 N.H.P. and under.		Over 100 N.H.P.		
Second "		761/ to 816/		846/ to 1226/		
Third "		652/6		656/ to 846/		
Fourth "		595/6		598/ to 723/		
5th, 6th, 7th "		..		537/6 to 662/		
and 8th "		..		525/6		
Merchant Service <i>b f g</i>—		<i>Scagoing</i>	<i>Scagoing</i>	<i>Scagoing</i>	<i>Scagoing</i>	
		Passenger Vessels.	Passenger Vessels.	Cargo Vessels.	Cargo Vessels.	
Masters per month	125 tons or under.	Over 10,000 tons.	60 tons or under.	Over 10,000 tons.		
Officers—	771/6	1886/	683/6	1446/		
Chief "	631/6	846/	571/6	766/		
Second "	569/6	764/	529/6	704/		
Third "	..	672/	..	622/		
Fourth and						
Fifth "	..	525/6	..	525/6		

a Rate of wage quoted is for other than special cargo. *b* Rates of wage quoted are in addition to victualling and accommodation. *c* Not more than 8 hours per day. *d* Not more than 8 hours per day within a spread of 15 consecutive hours when at sea, between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. in terminal ports and between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. in intermediate ports. *e* Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified according to nominal horse-power of vessels. *f* Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified for interstate vessels, and for vessels within a State according to tonnage: the lowest and highest classes for interstate passenger and cargo vessels are here given. *g* Ordinary length of duty in a day at sea or in port or partly at sea and partly at port shall be 8 hours.

GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Farming—	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
General Hands <i>a b c</i> ..	90 0	50/ to 70/	60 0	60 0	50/ to 90/	65 0
Harvesters ..	17130/8 to 168/	17130/8 to 168/	17130/8 to 168/	17130/8 to 168/	17130/8 to 168/	17130/8 to 168/
Milkers ..	1796 0	1796 0	1796 0	1796 0	1796 0	1796 0
Ploughmen <i>a b c</i> ..	90 0	60/ to 80/	70 0	60 0	50/ to 90/	72 6
Chaffcutting—						
Feeders (Travelling plant)	110/6 & 113/6	119 6	..	..	99/11 to 132/5	17149 4
Feeders (Stationary mill)	110/6 & 113/6	113 6	..	..	99/11 to 132/5	17149 4

For footnotes, see next page.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Gardening—	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Gardeners	117 6	107/4 to 112/10	102 0	101 6	105 11	100 0
Labourers	99 0	100/ to 106/5	97 0	100 0	99 11	97 0
Nurserymen	117 6	104/6 to 115/	102 0	106 6	111 11	100 0
Labourers	99 0	98 0	97 0	100 0	99 11	97 0
Pastoral Workers d—						
Cooks b	130 0	130 0	168/ & 178/	130 0	121 3	130 0
Shearers .. . per 100	41/3 & 42/3	41/3 & 42/3	43 9	41/3 & 42/3	37/ & 38/	41/3 & 42/3
Shed Hands	146 0	146 0	132 6	146 0	145 9	146 0
Wool Pressers	150 0	150 0	153 6	150 0	155 3	150 0
Rural Workers—						
Fruit Harvesters ..	1101 0	1101 0	..	1101 0	..	..

a Ruling or predominant rates, see note at commencement of table. *b* Rates of wage quoted are in addition to board and lodging provided. *c* Hours in the farming industry vary considerably, and no reliable particulars can be published. *d* Shearers' and woolpressers' hours are 44 per week; shed hands' hours are the same as shearers with such additional time as may be necessary to finish picking up fleeces, &c. Should the time engaged picking up, &c., exceed 30 minutes per day, all time thereafter must be paid as overtime. The hours of cooks are not regulated.

GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage specified for employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where board and lodging are not provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Cooks (Hotels and Restaurants)—	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Chefs	121/6 to 214/	118/6 to 148/	127/ to 132/	119/ to 144/	116/6 & 124/3	101/ to 151/
Cooks—Second ..	112/ to 164/	112/6 to 130/6	117 0	106/6 to 114/	103/1 & 108/10	98/6 to 123/6
Cooks—Third ..	112/ to 134/	112 6	117 0	103/ & 104/	102 1	98/6 to 113/6
Kitchenmen	103 0	106 0	104 6	94 0	99 11	97 0
Hairstressing—						
Hairstressers ..	120 0	124 0	112 0	119 0	119 11	120/ to 145/
Hotels—						
Barmen	113 0	112 0	103 0	111 0	123 11	110 0
Billiard Markers ..	101 0	106 6	102 0	94 0	99 11	97 0
Handymen	101 0	106 6	102 0	94 0	99 11	97 0
Lift Attendants	101 0	109 0	97 0	101 0	99 11	97 0
Porters—Day Work ..	101 0	106 6	102 0	96 6	99 11	97 0
Porters—Night Work	104 0	106 6	102 0	96 6	104 11	97 0
Waiters—Head	108 0	112 0	102 0	104/ & 107/	..	103/6 to 116/7
Waiters—Other	101 0	106 6	102 0	99 6	101 1	97/ to 103/6
Restaurants—						
Pantrymen	108 6	102 0	107 6	96 0	109 11	97 0
Waiters	108/6 & 111/	102 0	107 6	99/6 & 104/	109 11	97/ to 103/6

GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Factory Engine Driving—	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Engine Drivers (Stationary)—						
1st Class	117/ to 120/	116/ & 119/	124/ & 129/	111/ & 114/	123/11 to 129/11	112/ & 115/
2nd Class	114/ to 117/	113/ & 116/	116/ & 121/	108/ & 110/	118/5 to 122/5	109/ & 112/
3rd Class	114/ to 117/	113/ & 116/	108/ & 113/	108/ & 111/	112/5 to 114/5	109/ & 112/
Firemen—						
1st Class	114 0	113 0	106/ & 111/	108 0	110/5 to 114/11	109 0
2nd Class	109 6	108 6	..	103 6	105/11 & 107/5	104 6
Greasers	109/6 & 114/	108/6 & 113/	106/ & 111/	103/6 & 108/	110 11	104/6 & 109/
Trimmers	109 6	108 6	102/ & 107/	103 6	107 11	104 6

SECTION IV.—*continued.*GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Municipal—						
Labourers	107 0	107 0	99 0	94 0	99 11	97 0
Street Sweepers ..	107 0	106 0	99 0	95 0	99/11 & 101/11	100 0
Shop and Other Assistants						
Boot Salesmen ..	122 0	¹² 121 6	117 0	111 0	116 8	⁷ 121 0
Chemists' Assistants ..	133 0	¹² 124 6	138 6	106 6	¹² 119 8	114 0
Clerks	109/ to 116/6	¹² 119 0	112 0	110 6	107/9 to 119/1	¹⁰ 115/ to 132/6
Drapery Salesmen ..	122 0	¹² 126 0	117 0	111 0	116 8	⁷ 121 0
Furniture Salesmen ..	122 0	¹² 130 0	117 0	108 6	116 8	⁸ 130 0
Grocery Salesmen ..	122 0	¹² 115 0	117 0	106 0	116 8	¹⁰ 106 9
Hardware Salesmen ..	122 0	¹² 118 0	117 0	115 0	116 8	¹⁰ 132 6
Railway Bookstall Assistants	122 0	¹² 101 6	117 0	106 0	116 8	¹⁰ 115/ to 132/6
Tobacconists' Assts. ..	122 0	¹² 112/6 to 122/6	117 0	105 0	116 8	¹¹ 106 9
Storemen — Packing, Cleaning, &c.—						
Night Watchmen ..	110 6	¹² 113 10	¹⁷ 100 0	¹² 115 3	118/10 & 122/	..
Office Cleaners ..	115 0	108 6	97/ to 102/	94 0	113 0	..
Packers—General ..	115/6 & 118/6	114 6	102 0	109 6	116 8	109 0
Storemen—General ..	114/ & 116/6	114 6	102 0	109 6	116 8	109 0
Wholesale Grocery—						
Packers	114 6	109/ & 114/6	102 0	108 0	116 8	109 0
Storemen	113 0	109/ & 114/6	102 0	108 0	116 8	109 0
Wholesale Hardware—						
Packers	116/ to 118/	114 0	102 0	108 0	116 8	109 0
Storemen	113/ to 115/	114 0	102 0	108 0	116 8	109 0

Section V.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Female Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of Each State for a Full Week's Work at 31st December, 1944.

(See Explanatory Note at top of page 139.)

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Biscuit Making—						
Adult Females ..	s. d. 55 6	s. d. 63 6	s. d. 57 0	s. d. 46 2	s. d. 55 8	s. d. 50 0
Confectionery—						
Adult Females ..	59 6	63 0	54 6	46 8	53 11	61/ to 102/
Jam Making and Pre-serving—						
Fillers ..	67 9	67 9	63 6	67 9	53 11	67 9
Other Adults ..	61 9	61 9	63 6	61 9	53 11	61 9
Tea Packing—						
Head Women ..	54 3	70 6	62/ to 71/6	..	64 6	..
Other Adults ..	54 3	62 0	58 6	51 2	64 6	..
Tobacco Working (Cigars)—						
Ringers ..	57 0	61 0	..	..	56 0	..
Wrapper Leaf Strippers	64/6 & 75/	68 6	..	..	56 0	..

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Bootmaking—						
Machinists .. Wax	80 9	80 9	80 9	80 9	..	80 9
Threat ..	67/3 to 73/3	67/3 to 73/3	67/3 to 73/3	67/3 to 73/3	61 9	67/3 to 73/3
Other Adults ..	67/3 to 73/3	67/3 to 73/3	67/3 to 73/3	67/3 to 73/3	61 9	67/3 to 73/3
Dressmaking—						
Adult Females ..	75/ to 80/3	75/ to 80/3	75/ to 80/3	75 0	57/5 to 66/5	75 0
Dyers and Cleaners—						
Adult Females ..	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	53/11 to 68/5	75 0
Hat Making (Straw)—						
Finishers & Machinists	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	..	75 0
Millinery—						
Adult Females ..	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	59 5	75 0
Shirt Making—						
Adult Females ..	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	57/5 to 66/5	75 0
Tailoring (Order)—						
Machinists ..	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	72 9	75 0
Coat Hands ..	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	62/11 to 65/5	75 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	62/11 to 65/5	75 0
Tailloresses—						
Coat Hands ..	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	72 9	75 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	62/11 to 66/5	75 0
Tailoring (Ready-made)—						
Machinists ..	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	61 5	75 0
Coat Hands ..	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	59 5	75 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	59 5	75 0
Tailloresses—						
Coat Hands ..	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	61 5	75 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	58 5	75 0
Textile Working (Woolen Mills)—						
Comb Minders ..	65 0	65 0	56 0	63 6	65 0	65 0
Drawers and Menders	67/ & 71/	67/ & 71/	61 6	65/6 & 69/6	67/ & 71/	67/ & 71/
Warpers ..	67 0	67 0	58 6	65 6	67 0	67 0
Weavers—Loom ..	68 0	68 0	61 6	66 6	68 0	68 0
Other Adults ..	58/ to 65/	58/ to 65/	56 0	56/6 to 63/6	58/ to 65/	58/ to 65/
Underclothing—						
Adult Females ..	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	75 0

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUPS I., II., V., AND VI.—PRINTING AND OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Bedding and Furniture—	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Bedding Machinists ..	62 6	63 0	62 3	54 6	61 3	55 0
Picture Frame Workers	65 6	63 0	..	59 0	61 3	59 6
Bookbinding—						
Folders and Sewers ..	64/6 & 65/6	64/ & 65/	61/ & 62/	61/ & 62/	62/ & 63/	62/ & 63/
Brush Making—						
Adult Females ..	62 0	59 0	56 6	49 8	57/5 & 58/11	..
Candle and Soap Making—						
Adult Females ..	58 6	64/ to 71/6	..	62 3	58 5	..
Cardboard Box Making—						
Box Makers ..	62 6	62 0	59 0	59 0	60 0	60 0
Other Adults ..	56 6	56 0	53 0	53 0	54 0	54 0
Jewellery—						
Chainmakers ..	84 0	125 6	76 6	..	66 6	..
Gilders ..	73 0	114 0	66 6	64 8	66 6	..
Polishers ..	73 0	125 6	66 6	64 8	66 6	..
Scratch Brushers ..	73 0	61 0	66 6	64 8	66 6	..
Leather Goods—						
Adult Females ..	62/9 & 123/	62/9 & 123/	62/9 & 123/	60/6 & 119/	62 5	62/9 & 123/
Paper Making—						
Adult Females ..	66 0	63/ & 65/6	..	..	..	..
Paper Bag Making—						
Adult Females ..	56/6 to 62/6	56/ to 62/	53/ to 59/	53/ to 59/	54/ to 60/	54/ to 60/
Potteries—						
Adult Females ..	58/ & 64/6	58 6	59 6	..	..	..
Printing—						
Jobbing Office Assistants ..	64 6	64 0	61 0	61 0	62 0	62 0
Lithographic Feeders	63 6	63 0	60 0	60 0	61 0	61 0
Rubber Working—						
Adult Females ..	72 9	72 0	60 6	48 2	..	..
Tent and Tarpaulin Making						
Machinists ..	62 9	62 9	62 9	60 6	57 11	62 9

GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage mentioned herein for employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where board and lodging are not provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Hotels—	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Barmaids ..	79 0	112 0	89 6	..	111 0	79 0
Housemaids ..	62 6	66 0	62 0	55 2	67 2	58/6 to 63/
Laundresses ..	68 0	69 0	68 0	59 2	67 2	66 6
Waitresses—Head ..	68 6	69 0	68 0	60 2	..	73/6 & 80/
„ Other ..	63 6	65 0	62 0	55 2	67 2	58/6 to 67/
Laundries—						
General Hands ..	59 9	56 0	61 0	55 2	61 11	54 0
Machinists—						
Shirt and Collar ..	61 9	67 0	61 0	59 2	65 11	54/ & 65/
Sorters ..	61 9	56 0	61 0	59 2	61 11	75 0
Starchers ..	59 9	62 6	61 0	55 2	61 11	54 0
Washers ..	59 9	60/9 & 108/6	61 0	55 2	72 8	65 0
Office Cleaning—						
Adult Females ..	61/6 to 66/9	99 11	69/6 to 73/6	52 2	64 7	..
Restaurants—						
Pantry Maids ..	70 6	59 6	65 0	50 2	56 6	60 0
Waitresses ..	70 6	59 6	65 0	51/8 to 59/2	56 6	58/6 to 67/

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP XIV.—SHOP ASSISTANTS, CLERKS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Clerks, &c.—						
Cashiers ..	76 6	76 0	84 6	62 8	(a) 70 2	⁹ 55/ to 132/
Clerical Assistants ..	70 9	76 0	84 6	62 8	70 2	⁹ 55/ to 132/
Saleswomen—						
Boot	76/6 & 122/	¹² 63 0	73 0	55 2	64/6 & 69/9	⁷ 64/6 & ¹⁰ 8/0
Drapery	76 6	¹² 94/6 to ¹²⁶ /	117 0	111 0	64/6 & 73/5	⁷ 108 0
Fruit and Confectionery	63 0	¹² 60 9	73 0	55 2	64 6	¹¹ 67 6
Newsagent and Book- stall	76 6	¹² 43/6 to ⁵⁹ /	73 0	55 2	64 6	¹⁰ 65/ & 70/
Tobacconists ..	76 6	¹² 71/ to ⁹⁶ /6	73 0	56 2	64 6	¹¹ 67 6

(a) 38 hours, except in special circumstances.

Section VI.

COMPARATIVE INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE SIX CAPITAL CITIES COMBINED.

(* Base of Each Section: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1911 = 1,000.)

Period.	Retail Price Index-numbers.						Nominal Wages Adult Males.	Real Wages. (a)	Percentage of Unem- ploy- ment among Trade Union- ists.
	Food and Grocer- ies.	Housing (4 and 5 Rooms).	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5 Rooms).	Clothing.	Miscel- laneous.	All Items of House- hold Ex- pendi- ture.			
Year—									
1911 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	(b)1,000	(b)1,000	(b)1,000	1,000	1,000	4.7
1914 ..	1,144	1,082	1,121	1,140	1,140	1,140	1,081	948	8.3
1921 ..	1,902	1,410	1,717	1,883	1,537	1,680	1,826	1,087	11.2
1929 ..	1,866	1,754	1,824	1,506	1,533	1,713	1,972	1,151	11.1
1932 ..	1,425	1,336	1,390	1,215	1,458	1,377	1,639	1,168	29.0
1933 ..	1,342	1,314	1,332	1,190	1,447	1,335	1,584	1,187	25.1
1939 ..	1,657	1,577	1,626	1,271	1,465	1,526	1,846	1,211	9.7
1940 ..	1,679	1,590	1,644	1,445	1,519	1,588	1,880	1,190	8.0
1941 ..	1,693	1,595	1,654	1,690	1,613	1,673	1,997	1,194	3.7
1942 ..	1,843	1,596	1,742	1,977	1,693	1,809	2,164	1,196	1.6
1943 ..	1,855	1,595	1,749	2,177	1,766	1,876	2,309	1,231	1.1
1944 ..	1,834	1,595	1,737	2,168	1,773	1,867	2,326	1,246	1.2
Quarter—									
1935.									
March ..	1,420	1,356	1,396	1,174	1,446	1,368	1,607	1,175	18.6
June ..	1,425	1,393	1,402	1,180	1,441	1,371	1,609	1,174	17.8
September ..	1,461	1,379	1,430	1,188	1,437	1,389	1,613	1,161	15.9
December ..	1,460	1,390	1,434	1,188	1,435	1,391	1,620	1,165	13.7
1936.									
March ..	1,445	1,413	1,433	1,191	1,432	1,391	1,623	1,167	13.4
June ..	1,455	1,425	1,444	1,194	1,431	1,397	1,629	1,166	12.8
September ..	1,489	1,449	1,474	1,197	1,455	1,420	1,641	1,156	12.0
December ..	1,510	1,461	1,491	1,203	1,449	1,430	1,659	1,160	10.7
1937.									
March ..	1,510	1,470	1,495	1,205	1,452	1,433	1,662	1,160	9.9
June ..	1,507	1,484	1,498	1,221	1,461	1,441	1,680	1,166	9.7
September ..	1,526	1,499	1,516	1,230	1,464	1,454	1,721	1,184	9.3
December ..	1,540	1,510	1,529	1,245	1,467	1,465	1,763	1,203	8.2
1938.									
March ..	1,540	1,521	1,534	1,247	1,466	1,467	1,778	1,212	8.0
June ..	1,572	1,534	1,558	1,255	1,461	1,482	1,787	1,206	8.6
September ..	1,616	1,547	1,589	1,256	1,463	1,500	1,806	1,204	9.2
December ..	1,608	1,559	1,589	1,256	1,463	1,501	1,823	1,215	8.9
1939.									
March ..	1,673	1,568	1,631	1,258	1,461	1,524	1,826	1,198	9.6
June ..	1,654	1,575	1,623	1,264	1,461	1,522	1,847	1,214	9.5
September ..	1,645	1,582	1,620	1,264	1,463	1,520	1,854	1,220	10.2
December ..	1,657	1,584	1,628	1,297	1,472	1,536	1,858	1,210	9.3
1940.									
March ..	1,640	1,587	1,620	1,342	1,481	1,542	1,864	1,209	7.9
June ..	1,688	1,589	1,649	1,415	1,518	1,583	1,875	1,184	10.5
September ..	1,676	1,591	1,642	1,450	1,533	1,590	1,903	1,197	7.4
December ..	1,710	1,593	1,663	1,572	1,542	1,635	1,912	1,169	6.2
1941.									
March ..	1,713	1,595	1,666	1,598	1,581	1,651	1,966	1,191	5.3
June ..	1,679	1,595	1,646	1,669	1,594	1,660	1,984	1,195	3.6
September ..	1,673	1,595	1,643	1,705	1,633	1,675	2,002	1,195	3.2
December ..	1,705	1,596	1,662	1,787	1,644	1,707	2,034	1,192	2.9
1942.									
March ..	1,771	1,597	1,701	1,838	1,667	1,746	2,091	1,198	1.8
June ..	1,832	1,596	1,736	1,942	1,673	1,793	2,127	1,186	1.7
September ..	1,887	1,595	1,768	2,028	1,689	1,835	2,182	1,189	1.6
December ..	1,880	1,595	1,764	2,098	1,741	1,860	2,257	1,213	1.3
1943.									
March ..	1,860	1,595	1,752	2,130	1,749	1,863	2,283	1,225	1.2
June ..	1,891	1,595	1,771	2,216	1,763	1,897	2,292	1,208	1.1
September ..	1,853	1,594	1,748	2,192	1,773	1,880	2,331	1,240	1.1
December ..	1,815	1,595	1,726	2,171	1,778	1,864	2,329	1,249	1.1
1944.									
March ..	1,824	1,595	1,731	2,167	1,775	1,864	2,322	1,246	1.0
June ..	1,834	1,595	1,737	2,160	1,773	1,865	2,322	1,245	1.4
September ..	1,852	1,595	1,748	2,166	1,772	1,873	2,327	1,242	1.2
December ..	1,827	1,595	1,733	2,180	1,770	1,867	2,332	1,249	1.2

(a) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by "C" series index of retail prices.

(b) Taken back from true base (November, 1914) by means of the Food and Rent of All Houses ("A" Series) Index.

* The Index-numbers given in the separate columns of the table cannot be compared with each other in order to show, for example, the relative cost of housing, and food and groceries, since the cost in 1911 in each group or combination is made equal to 1,000.

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